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The Unity Resolution between CPI(ML) and CCR(ML)

Budget 2010-2011: Aggressive Neo-liberalism with Populist Mask

March 8: International Women's Day

RYFI Observes Anti-Imperialist Day

Greece : General Strike of 24 February



ON THE DEATH OF COMRADE KANU SANYAL

COMRADE KANU SANYAL, starting as a member of the Communist party of India, fought against the revisionist leadership of the CPI and the CPI(M). He was at the forefront of the great Naxalbari uprising and was also one of the leading members in the period of formation of the CPI(ML). He was elected a member of the Politburo of the CPI(ML) in its 1970 Congress. We offer our heartfelt condolences at his passing away on 23 March.

As the news has come out that he has committed suicide, a section of the media and vested interests are trying to utilise it to vilify the communist revolutionary movement as a whole and the 'Naxalites' in general. It is a fact that during 1967-70 when he led the Naxalbari uprising and later announced the formation of CPI(ML) on 1969 May Day rally, along with comrade Charu Majumdar he was a symbol of Naxalbari movement. But during his jail life and when he came out in 1977 he started expressing frustration about the setback suffered by the movement and denounced CPI(ML). Like most other CPI(ML) and Communist Revolutionary group leaders he also could not analyse the reasons for the severe setbacks suffered by the movement.

What happened to the Naxalite movement was not an isolated incident in the International Communist Movement. Earlier failing to evaluate the developments during post-Second World War period when imperialism led by US imperialism had transformed colonial plunder to neo-colonial forms of plunder, the post-Stalin Soviet leadership had deviated Soviet Union and all the parties following it like CPI and CPI(M) to capitalist path, to the path of degeneration. Similarly the CPI(ML) and other Communist Revolutionary organisations formed in different countries had degenerated to left adventurist line by mechanically copying the erroneous evaluation of the new imperialist onslaughts by the Chinese Communist Party leaders in its 1969 Congress. Though the Naxalbari uprising could bring People's Democratic Revolution and agrarian revolutionary movement back to the agenda of Indian people, analysing India as semi-colonial and semi-feudal and refusing to recognise the transformation of India

from a colony to a neo-colony where production relations were undergoing changes under imperialist domination, they tried to copy the 'Protracted People's War' of China in vastly different Indian conditions. Rejection of class and mass organisations and pursuit of annihilation line had isolated them from the masses and helped the central and state governments to suppress the movement. The CPI(Maoist) is still following this line degenerating to anarchist path. Though other CPI(ML) groups have abandoned the line of annihilation and are claiming to uphold mass line, all them are facing disintegration and frustration since they refuse to reject the dogma of protracted people's war and refuse to recognise the neo-colonisation taking place in all fields. Comrade Kanu Sanyal was no exception.

In spite of this dogmatic line when his group came forward to unite with CPI(ML) Red Flag, which had analysed the neo-colonial forms of plunder during post-Second World War period correctly, the united CPI(ML) could make significant advances during 2005-09. But, when the question of developing the ideological-political line based on concrete conditions at international and national level came up his section reverted to old dogmatic positions. It caused immense reverses to his group. Meanwhile comrade Kanu Sanyal had suffered a stroke and his health condition had deteriorated. The failure to settle accounts with the dogmatic past and to scientifically analyse the reasons for the setbacks had led many leaders of the movement to abandon the path of revolution. They became inactive or joined the camp of reaction. But comrade Kanu Sanyal remained a communist revolutionary till end.

While the CPI(ML) lower the red flag in his memory, it shall boldly pursue the ideological-political line put forward by its Bhopal Special Conference, intensifying the mass upsurges to throw out neo-colonial slavery and to achieve people's democracy and socialism. ●

**New Delhi
24 March 2010**

**KN Ramachandran
General Secretary
CPI(ML)**

UPA's Budget 2010-11: Neo-Liberalism Unlimited

WHEN the Economic Survey 2009-10 has admitted that the agriculture has performed very poorly with 0.2% decline in agricultural output and when the inflation has reached double digits with retail prices of cereals and all essential commodities and food expenses almost doubled, the finance minister has come out with a budget for 2010-11 which only promotes the 'entrepreneurial energy' of the top 5-10%, only serves the MNCs and Corporate giants and which only encourages the consumerist tendencies of the affluent middle class, a miniscule segment of the society. In addition to continuous increases in the prices of petroleum products the central excise duty on them is again hiked. More and more indirect taxes are imposed. The public sector shares worth Rs. 25,000 crores are sold. All subsidies to the poorer sections are further cut. While the fabulous amounts spent to help the Corporate houses 'to perform well' in spite of global crisis shall be continued, no steps are announced to bring down the prices of essential commodities. It is nothing but neo-liberalism unlimited, unleashed to satisfy the greedy rich and to devastate the vast masses.

When the global financial crisis started hitting India, the UPA government had overthrown fiscal orthodoxy and the corporate houses were provided fabulous stimulus. But under *Fiscal Responsibility and Responsibility Management Act* all investments and expenditures in the social sector are drastically cut. As the central government has concentrated more and more financial powers in its hands violating whatever federal principles exist in the Constitution, the state governments are further starved of funds forcing the cutting down of expenditures for health-care, education, housing and rural development. While the poor are getting increasingly deprived of public distribution system, housing, employment and even primary education, the retail sector is also opened to Corporates and MNCs, the real estate lobby is allowed full domination, health-care is privatised further and even the foreign universities are allowed to enter in a big way in this budget. It will make the higher education more elitist. It will speed up the commercialisation of every social sector including the education.

In US and other imperialist countries the agri-businesses is promoted through huge government subsidies. But this budget has further cut the measly subsidies to the marginal farmers. Whatever helps are provided in this sector are snatched away by the elite classes as is evident in Corporate-MNC farming and they are investing huge sums to build storage facilities including cold storages for promoting their hoarding and black marketing. The finance minister has openly helped them by leasing out the FCI godowns to them, many of which are empty due to government cutting down the procurement of cereals. Finance for setting up godowns and cold storage are counted as agricultural credit to them, under priority sector lending. Thus this budget further strengthens Corporate and MNC hegemony in the agriculture, storage and retail business sectors.

As the food prices are soaring up the government could utilise the more than 27 million tonnes food grains in government stock to market through the PDS. But the budget refuses to do it. At the same time the increase in the expenditures for social sector and rural developments outlays is only 6.6%, which means a real absolute decline due to spiralling inflation. The Corporate-MNC lobby was clamouring for a free reign for finance, a lax monetary policy, easy liquidity, low interest, expanded credit and cut in personal taxes to legitimise

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the new regime of accumulation and to promote credit-financed housing, consumption and investment boom. In his Thatcherist *avatar* Pranab Mukherjee has given much more than they asked for. At the same time he has made a direct attack on the income of the bottom half of the population through hike in fuel prices and indirect taxes, reduction in food subsidy and through the neglect of agricultural schemes benefitting the poorer sections.

Fully aware of the fact that a most dangerous, reactionary consensus has developed among all big and small, national and regional ruling class parties and the social democratic CPI(M)-led Left Front in direct or indirect support of the neo-liberal policies which are intensifying the neo-colonial slavery, that none of these parties are going to make the comprador policies of the UPA government a major issue in any of the forth coming state assembly elections, and that the next Lok Sabha elections are comfortably away, that is, they are going to take place only after four years, the Congress-led UPA government has dared to unleash the neo-liberal policies at an unprecedentedly frantic speed. It is an outright effort to serve the elite classes by fleecing the vast majority. There is not a single aspect of this budget which deserves even a critical support. It is outrightly reactionary. What is called for is the outright rejection of this reactionary budget and uncompromising struggle to expose and oppose it. ●

Oppose Operation Green Hunt

IMPOSING Operation Green Hunt (OGH) all over the country in the name of suppressing the so-called Maoist threat the UPA government has intensified state terror manifold. This OGH is nothing but a more barbarous extension of the *Salwa Judum* imposed by the BJP government in Chhattisgarh, in Bastar region, especially in Dantewada district in the name of flushing out the Maoists from there. If the *Salwa Judum* caused devastation in the tribal areas and created favourable conditions for the entry of Corporate houses and MNCs to this mineral rich region, the consequences of the OGH is more damaging at all India level to the vast masses of people. That is why CPI(ML) has strongly denounced this fascist operation and has called for its withdrawal forthwith.

When the imperialist globalisation was launched in 1991, as all the ruling class parties including the regional parties followed by CPI(M)-led Left Front started upholding it, and when neo-liberal policies were made the rules of the day, the ruling reactionary state system at the centre and in the provinces had thought that it will have a smooth going. As numerous infrastructural projects, Corporate-MNC projects and SEZs like projects were launched involving displacement of tens of thousands of marginal peasants and down-trodden

sections, again the consecutive central and state governments had thought that they will also have a smooth sale. Intoxicated by the propaganda blitzkrieg, distorted analyses and falsified reports of the corporate media, especially the numerous TV channels, and by their own arrogance the ruling system had thought that there will be no serious adverse reaction from the masses to its imperialist dictated policies causing unprecedented price rise, unemployment and under-employment leading to distressed migrations at an ever increasing scale, loss of housing, ecological crisis, commercialisation of education, health-care, etc.

But though not reported by the corporate media in any significant manner, the resistance by the masses to these policies which are pauperising them and devastating the country more and more is increasing. Many of them are spontaneous outbursts of the people. Still the extent of these resistance struggles is frightening the ruling elite. So they are in search of a pretext, a bogey to unleash state terror to crush the people's resistance struggles, whether they are organised or spontaneous. In this they are taking lessons from precedents. For example they have turned Jammu and Kashmir in to a military occupied territory using the bogey of *jihadis* from across the border to crush the people's struggle for self-governance. They have turned the seven states of North-East in to killing fields for the military and para-military forces by imposing the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) utilising the bogey of a few bands of insurgents to crush the people's right to democracy and self governance.

Now, not satisfied with a number of black acts imposed in the name of curbing the 'terrorists', the *Operation Green Hunt* is imposed with a 'search, terrorise and kill' mission deploying various para-military forces and police utilising the bogey of Maoists to terrorise the people, to crush people's struggles against various anti-people, anti-national policies. As the anti-state struggles of the masses of people are bound to intensify in coming days as the neo-liberal policies are causing havoc, more black laws, more state terror and imposition of more fascist acts are bound to happen.

In spite of it, it is surprising that some intellectuals and NGOs are diverting attention from the real picture and indirectly helping the ruling system by focussing their protest to save few activists of petti-bourgeois class origin. The tens of thousands subjected to the savagery of state terror are often forgotten. During the emergency years of 1975-77 the case of Kista Gowd and Bhumaiyya, the hundreds killed in encounters and the tens of thousands of Naxalite activists tortured and thrown in to jails were forgotten. The cases on leaders of petti-

bourgeois, bourgeois parties jailed were projected. Recently, following imposition of *Salwa Judum* in Chhattisgarh, the arrest and detention of Vinayak Sen was singled out and projected leading to his release. After imposition of the OGH the cases of encounter killings and arrest of some leaders of CPI(Maoist) are one-sidedly projected. It does not mean that we are in anyway minimising the barbarity of the state in any of these cases. They should be taken up and opposed. The moot question raised here is that why the case of Kista Gowd and Bhummaiyya who were hanged to death, the thousands who are killed in false encounters, the tens of thousands of adivasis, dalits, workers and other exploited and down-trodden sections subjected to torture, detention are not taken up with the same intensity, and why the barbarous state terror clubbing it with the pernicious, reactionary class character of the state is not focussed as the arch-villain with the same intensity? It exposes that neither these so-called intellectuals and the NGOs are ready to oppose the state as an instrument of class oppression, nor are they ready to fight the state which includes the executive, legislative, judiciary, police and military from a working class stand point. They often hijack the democratic and civil rights movements to petti-bourgeois positions so that the state can escape by releasing a Vinayak Sen or by ordering an enquiry as a safety valve to hoodwink the progressive, democratic sections.

In this situation, in order to expose the Indian state as an instrument of class oppression by the principal enemies of Indian people, the imperialists, especially US imperialists and the big capitalist, bureaucratic bourgeois and big landlord classes serving them, in order to expose and oppose the ever-intensifying fascist acts of the state machinery to serve the speeding up of the neo-liberal policies and to suppress the people's struggles against them what is required is a broad based democratic front of all progressive, democratic and revolutionary left forces. We appeal to all such forces to come together to forge such a broad democratic front at all India level as early as possible. ●

Should India and Pakistan Continue Hostility?

MOST probably India and Pakistan are the only two countries continuing their hostility even after more than six decades. They were born in 1947 under a mutual agreement arrived at by the two dominant political forces, the Congress and the Muslim League, with the British colonial power. There was consensus among all the then existing political forces in the colony to this fatally wrong decision of communally dividing the country as planned and executed by the British raj. It led to millions losing their life in the ensuing communal conflicts and tens of millions becoming part of one of the biggest exodus of population, as both the colonialists and the major players, the Congress, the Muslim League and all brands of communalists, mainly RSS, wanted to perpetuate the division by sharpening the communal divide.

After six decades even normal state to state dialogue is not taking place between the two. Under people's pressure if one is started, it is soon aborted by the vested interests. In spite of the overwhelming desire of the people of Jammu & Kashmir for self-governance based on self-determination, it is turned in to a military occupied territory by both India and Pakistan. Utilising it, the communal forces are fomenting terrorism. While the whole political establishment, the bureaucracy, the military, the ISI and the various *jihadis* on Pak side thrive on it, the picture is same or worse on India side. The political establishment, the bureaucracy, military, RAW and the Hindu fundamentalist forces led by RSS thrive on it. As a result, the rail-road transport, trade, people to people relations, river water-sharing agreements, border discussions and all country to country contacts and relations are continuously subverted. In spite of the people on both sides of the border share same culture, language and history, and much more in common, they are divided in to hostile nations. Who are benefiting from it?

Of course imperialism, especially US imperialism, is the arch-villain benefiting from it, and so indulging in all heinous acts to perpetuate the division. Through this the US could turn Pakistan in to its dependency from the very beginning. It could make its military and ISI subservient to it. It could turn Pak

soil in to a den of Islamic militants to throw out the Soviet troops from Afghanistan in the 1980s. Utilising Indo-Pak hostility fully, the US and its allies and later Soviet Union and now Russia could indulge in arms trade running into trillions of dollars with the two countries. Today, as a result of these US-led policies Pakistan is turned in to a neo-colony facing severe crisis and threat of disintegration. Under imperialist domination, which is intensifying neo-colonisation, India is also facing crisis, with vast majority of its population facing increasing pauperisation and devastation. The army build-up along the border, the hostility with Pakistan, the increasing arms race, etc. are contributing in a major way for this state of affairs.

Along with the imperialist powers, especially US imperialism, various internal forces as noted above, the political and military establishment, bureaucracy, 'security' agencies, the religious fundamentalists, etc. on both sides have reaped immense benefit from the Indo-Pak divide. It is utilised to keep the people divided internally and across the

border; to perpetuate the reactionary, anti-people ruling system in both the countries; to fatten the Corporate giants, the MNCs, the landlord classes and all vested interests at the expense of the vast masses on both sides.

As far as the condition on Indian side is concerned it is not only the communal die-hards led by RSS and the various communal parties who are working overtime to worsen the Indo-Pak relations. While they are in the forefront to dub Pakistan as a 'terrorist country', the condition of the so-called secular parties is not basically different in waging the hate-Pakistan game. As far as the military establishment is concerned, on both sides it is violently opposed to any settlement as it will cut down their forces, power and facilities to a great extent. Similar is the case with BSF and other para-military forces. They are reaping benefits from a corrupt, hostile border. The comprador bureaucracy takes orders from the US masters to perpetuate the hostility. So is the RAW, like the ISI. In spite of the geographical proximity, even among the middle classes in India there is very little effort or patience to

understand the complexities of the problem which are worsening the Indo-Pak relations. They seem to compete with their Pak counterparts in this. Every word uttered by the highly partisan Indian establishment is repeated and spread, forgetting that the *RSS jihadis* are not milder than those across the border.

The most grievous fault on Indian side is that it is not prepared to openly state that Pakistan is not capable of attacking and defeating India, and that war is not a means to solve Indo-Pak problems. It is not ready to take initiative and declare that the dividing issues are political issues including the J&K question, and that they can be solved only through political means. While the religious fundamentalists and sectarian *jihadis* on both sides try hard to make the issues emotional and religious fanatic, and the corporate media play a dirty role in this, a declaration from the Indian side committing to resolve all issues politically through continuous unconditional dialogue shall change the situation in a major way. But such an initiative is not just happening. The ruling class-bureaucrat-military-communalist nexus in the country will not allow such a thing to happen. As even the present people to people relations from both sides are mostly sponsored by the ruling system and the vested interests, they, in the present form, are not helping the ice to break. A 'Mumbai' is sufficient to make everything emotional, and turn everything topsy-turvy, taking the ball back to square one. The US imperialists and all those engaged in arms trade shall not allow the situation to improve.

In this situation it is the task of all progressive, democratic and revolutionary left forces to wage a relentless campaign to expose the ruling nexus for the worsening of Indo-Pak relations in the interests of imperialists, especially US imperialist forces. Along with this people to people relations should be developed at all levels. In this context CPI(ML) vows to develop contacts with the revolutionary left forces in Pakistan for this purpose. A vigorous campaign is called for to make the people conscious of the necessity to change present stalemate and to force the Indian govt. to take initiative to resolve all outstanding problems politically, to develop Indo-Pak relations in their interest. ●

Build Pressure to Get Women's Reservation Bill Passed

IT was hundred years ago Clara Zetkin had announced on March 8, 1910, the resolution of a few women's organisations to start observing the same date from 1911 as the *International Women's Day* to spearhead the campaign for women's liberation from all the shackles binding them down. When it was announced that on that historic day the *Women's Reservation Bill* ensuring one-third seats in the Lok Sabha and all state assemblies for women will be passed by the Rajya Sabha, it was difficult to believe as there was no unanimity on it within the MPs of Congress and BJP and as the RJD, SP, LJP, JD(U) and

BSP like parties, the offshoots of Mandal movements and dalit politics, the catalysts of social engineering as they are hailed, in spite of fighting with each other on most of the people's issues, had forged a strange unity to block the bill by going to any extent. Still the Bill was passed with overwhelming majority the next day by the Rajya Sabha after throwing out a handful of rowdy MPs of these caste-based parties was indeed a step forward, however small it is, for the women's liberation struggles in this country. After this bill was first presented in 1996 during the United Front ministry, it could not be carried through because of the domination of male chauvinist and reactionary sections, even after it was presented again and again during the NDA and then first UPA rule. So what was achieved on 9th March was indeed a step forward. Optimistic pictures were presented by the UPA leaders and the media that within a week it will be passed by the Lok Sabha also, however hard the Lalu-Mulayam-Paswan-Sharad forces try to scuttle it. But the first part of the budget session wound up without presenting it in the Lok Sabha. Now it is becoming more and more clear day by day that without a major push from below it may not be presented in the second half of the budget session also.

We do not claim that just by getting this bill enacted the women's liberation is going to become a reality. We are seeing that even after one-third reservation for women in local bodies at all India level and even 50% reservation in some states the condition of women has not improved much. In a country where the *Khap Panchayats* are still dominating, where caste-hierarchy and religious fundamentalists promote male dominated society, where private property is grinding down women and where even feudal practices enslaving women still persist, women's liberation without overthrowing existing socio-political-economic ruling system and without a protracted struggle for egalitarian revolutionary cultural values is going to remain a distant dream. But this *Long March* can be accomplished through numerous such partial gains achieved as a result of the continuing struggle from the progressive women's movements. That is why all progressive, democratic and revolutionary left forces join hands in supporting such bills and such measures.

But the development preceding the Rajya Sabha vote and following it expose how powerful is the forces of reaction, the male chauvinist political establishment in this country. There is no doubt that the RJD-SP-LJP-JD(U)-BSP like forces have moved far away from the ideals of Lohia, Dr. Ambedkar or Mandal they profess to uphold. Abandoning caste annihilation slogan, they are protecting caste hierarchy to save their vote banks. It is not the love for OBC-minority women but the fear of losing some of their so-called safe seats that lead them to act like scoundrels to block the bill. As none of them, including Shiv Sena, is not going change their attitude towards the bill soon, it is not possible to reach any 'political consensus' to pass the bill in its present form. As was done in Rajya Sabha only by ejecting the rowdy elements the bill can be passed in the Lok

Sabha. Since the Congress, BJP, the CPI(M)-led Left Front and other parties claiming to support the bill are having a clear two-third majority, why the Congress-led UPA is not taking initiative to get the bill passed in LS?

It is because there are strong opposition within Congress and BJP themselves against reserving 181 seats for women in the Lok Sabha. Though they can still get their wives, daughters, daughters-in-law get elected as is often done now, they are afraid of the challenge the patriarchy will face as a result of even this small step forward. They are afraid of even a bourgeois democratic reform which may challenge their domination in the family and in the society. So the task of getting the Women's Reservation Bill passed in the LS and then in the majority of state assemblies is not going to be an easy. The reactionary, male chauvinist forces should not be allowed to scuttle Bill. ●

Observe Party Day, the 22nd April

IT was on 22nd April 1969, the CPI(ML) was formed on Lenin's birth centenary day as a culmination of the inner-party struggle within the CPI(M), inspired by the Naxalbari uprising in 1967. During the last four decades the Party had to undergo a very tortuous course. When the Party was born in the course of bitter struggle against revisionist CPI and neo-revisionist CPI(M) leaderships, it could spread the wave of agrarian revolutionary movement to a number of states attracting lakhs of people from basic classes along with large sections of youth and students. In spite of this momentous beginning, the failure to make a concrete analysis of India situation and developing the path of Indian revolution accordingly led it to mechanically copy the *Chinese Path*. As a result it was deeply influenced by the left adventurist Lin Biaoist line that was dominating the CPC during its Ninth Congress in 1969 utilising the banner of Mao. This sectarian line led to the Party's isolation from the organised masses and to its disintegration by 1971-72 under severe state terror.

In the following decades the main division among the CPI(ML) and other CR groups was on the evaluation of line of annihilation and whether to adopt mass line or not. Those sections who were sticking to 'arms struggle as the only form of struggle' have polarised now into CPI(Maoist) and is pursuing the anarchist line. But almost all others who are claiming to oppose this erroneous line and to uphold the mass line have not dared to go into the fundamental reasons for the deviation of the socialist countries to capitalist path, the CPI-CPI(M) like parties to right opportunist line and the reason for the emergence of the sectarian line within the CPC and in all the parties which upheld CPC as 'authority'. On ideological, political questions, on the analysis of the character

of Indian society and state and on the path of India revolution, none of them are prepared to break with the line of the anarchist CPI(Maoist). None of them are ready to abandon the sectarian approach to party building they are pursuing from the beginning and to uphold the Bolshevik style of Party building. As a result, both these sections are in perennial crisis, facing divisions, stagnation or degeneration.

It is in this challenging situation, the CPI(ML) had launched crucial ideological political initiative from early 1980s to analyse the strategy and tactics of the imperialist camp led by US imperialism including the transformation of its forms of plunder to neo-colonialism. Almost three decades of these efforts have led to arriving at the four basic documents adopted by the Bhopal Special Conference in November 2009 providing Marxist-Leninist orientation

to the movement and charting the path of Indian revolution. The international line to build a platform of Marxist-Leninist parties to challenge the imperialist system and forces of reaction is also put forward. In continuation to these moves, based on the *Party Letter* incorporating the 1921 *Comintern Document* on

Bolshevik Style Party Building, the whole Party is being prepared to take up the task of building Party and class/mass organisations at all India level. The whole Party is being prepared to launch all India campaigns and struggles focussing on burning issues before the people. As a result of all these steps, unlike the right opportunist, centrist, anarchist forces who are facing stagnation and decay, the CPI(ML) has made significant advances already at all India level. It is moving forward confidently to unite all genuine communist forces into a single powerful Party and to convene the Party Congress by the end of 2011. It is in this context the Central Committee has called to observe the Party Day enthusiastically. ●

Observe May Day With Revolutionary Orientation

THE May Day, the international working class day, is observed this year when the working class is confronting an all out attack in all fronts by the forces of capital, by the imperialist and comprador ruling system all over the world. Under neo-liberal onslaught, in the course of last 2 or 3 decades almost all the hard-earned rights of the working class are snatched away. They are thrown under the *jungle raj* of contract system and 'hire and fire'. The wage slavery is imposed more and more ruthlessly, barbarously. Emboldened by the severe setbacks suffered by the International Communist Movement (ICM), the imperialists and their lackeys are on the offensive to beat back all the efforts of the working class to reorganise and launch their struggles.

With their vibrant call "Workers of the World, Unite", Marx and Engels had pointed out in 1848 that the wage slavery and oppression suffered by the working class can be overcome only by overthrowing the rule of capital, the capitalist system lock-stock and barrel. With the capitalist system leaving the way to monopoly capitalism, imperialism, and now imperialism launching the barbarous neo-liberal policies, the call of the Marxist teachers are proved all the more correct. Without overthrowing the reactionary ruling system, workers' emancipation is impossible.

But the leadership of the working

class movements, irrespective of the rightist, centrist or pseudo left positions they take, are uniting to divert the working class further away from the path of militant struggles to overthrow the ruling system. They are proving themselves as renegades who are engaged in occasional reformist campaigns to divert the attention of the working class to pacifist ways. They are proving themselves, more than ever, as enemies of social revolution.

On the occasion of the May Day the Central Committee of the CPI(ML) calls on the working class to get politically equipped and organisationally prepared with revolutionary orientation to establish the leadership of the working class in the revolutionary movement, to overthrow the rule of reaction and to establish the political power of the working class.

Uncle Sam's Orders: Open up Markets Further

OBAMA administration is not satisfied yet with the two decades of imperialist globalisation policies pursued by the comprador governments in this country. The neo-colonial domination of US imperialists has reached such a stage that even any *tom-dick-and-harry* from US like a Robert Blake, an assistant secretary of state, can declare at New Delhi and get well reported by the corporate media that India should change its laws further to make the market more open and receptive to foreign capital, increasing the cap on direct foreign investment, reducing agricultural import barriers, lowering barriers to infrastructure development by developing a long term debt market and removing local content requirements, and reducing regulatory barriers to business. These *directives* came three days after India signed with US 'a framework for co-operation in trade and investment'. He also demanded a commitment to make markets more accessible for outside investors. He expressed displeasure for the obstacles to Bharati-Walmart joint venture in expanding its business. According to him opening up further as per US directives will help India play the role of global partner (it means nothing but junior partner) to Uncle Sam.

The Manmohan Singh government bowed to these directives with such speed that on 25th March the news appeared in media that it is considering a proposal to open up even the defence manufacturing sector for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) allowing global players to set up production facilities in the country. That is, even Indian military will be privatised to serve US interests. ●

Recognising the paramount importance of building unity among the Marxist-Leninist forces based on a correct ideological-political analysis of imperialism today, when it is unleashing global onslaughts against the working class and the oppressed masses through neo-liberal policies which are intensifying neo-colonial forms of plunder, the CPI(ML) and CCR(ML) initiated unity talks from March 2009. The talks continued and the draft documents prepared by CPI(ML) for the All India Special Conference at Bhopal in November 2009 help to advance the talks. The presence of leading comrades of CCR(ML) in the Special Conference and their active participation in the discussion on the draft documents helped the process of unity further. Following it the delegation level discussion was held between the two organisations in December 2009. It was followed by ratification of the unity by the Plenum of CCR(ML) on 27-28 February and by the CC of CPI(ML). On 5th March the following Unity Resolution was discussed and adopted delegates of both organisations, completing the merger process.

The Unity Resolution between CPI(ML) and CCR(ML)

AS a culmination of the unity talks taking place between CCR(ML) and the CPI(ML) for the last one year, its merger into the CPI(ML) is approved by the Central Committee of the CPI(ML) and the special plenum of the CCR(ML). This unity has taken place based on the broad acceptance by CCR(ML) of the main documents, namely 1) The International Situation and Our Tasks, 2) The Nature of Indian Society and State, 3) The Principal Contradiction and 4) The Path of Revolution adopted by the All India Special Conference of the CPI(ML) in November 2009. The Outline of the Party Program and the Party Constitution of the CPI(ML) shall continue to remain the basis of the activities. While there is a broad acceptance of these documents by the CCR(ML), there are some differences like the question of party formation and its name, which shall be resolved through a democratic process.

Both the parties recognize that the international communist movement and the Indian communist movement have, from a position of great strength, disintegrated and are facing severe setbacks and crises because of the failure to recognise the changes brought about by imperialism – in the post Second World War period – in its forms of plunder and aggression, from colonial to neo-colonial, utilizing the hegemony of capital and market.

It is the failure to analyse this neo-colonial offensive by the imperialist camp, which has led to both the right opportunist trend led by Khrushchovite

forces in the Soviet Union and the left adventurist trend led by Lin Biao using the banner of Mao Thought in China surfaced causing incalculable damage to the international communist movement and continuing as the basis of left and right deviations. Under left deviation the importance of the working class as the leader of the revolution was in effect rejected, the agrarian revolution was one-sidedly emphasized, the peasantry elevated as the main force of the revolution and, in effect, concepts like peasant revolution emerged. Both the parties agree to wage uncompromising struggle against these deviations.

The CCR(ML) hereby stands dissolved and will henceforth function as the West Bengal State Organising Committee of the CPI(ML). In view of the situation in Bengal, the committee shall use the name CPI(ML) (Red Star) till the identity of the CPI(ML) is established in Bengal and it will work towards establishing this name.

We call upon all the communist revolutionaries in India to unite into a single party – the CPI(ML) – to intensify the struggle against imperialist globalization, liberalization and privatization which have subjected the country to neo-colonial slavery and thereby overthrow the comprador ruling classes for making the people's democratic revolution victorious. ●

**Long live the Revolution
Long live Marxism-Leninism-Mao Thought
Long live the CPI(ML)**

Budget 2010-11: Aggressive Neo-liberalism with Populist Mask

PJ James

IN a nutshell, the 2010-11 Central Budget steps up the UPA government's direct attack on the vast majority of toiling masses in the country through a massive hike in fuel prices, an unprecedented rise in indirect taxes on most items of daily consumption, an absolute reduction in food and fertilizer subsidies, treacherous sale of even profit-making public sector undertakings denying even the existing nominal organized sector employment and a general cut in all forms of social and rural welfare spending on the one hand, and an exceptionally liberal approach towards corporate and speculative sections in the form of a number of tax breaks, budgetary concessions, subsidies for real estate and agribusiness mafia and so on, on the other. In spite of the most eloquent rhetoric on empowering the *aam aadmi*, the basic philosophy of the budget continues to be out rightly neoliberal and elitist. It aims at a further intensification of the neo-colonisation process led by speculative finance capital and a further widening of the gap between the rich and the poor.

As a matter of fact, the leading capitalist countries are still reeling under the ongoing economic recession and the leading MNCs and financial institutions are compelling their respective imperialist governments to pry open markets and investment opportunities in neo-colonial countries. That is why, at the outset itself, Mukherjee has enlisted a package of policies including the granting of "automatic route" for laying red carpet to all varieties of FDIs and FIIs that will fully integrate the country with the crisis-ridden

imperialist world economy led by US imperialism. The consequent abolition of even the remaining "national barriers" and "national protection" and provision of maximum administrative flexibility for the unfettered entry and exit of MNCs including the removal of all restrictions to the repatriation of profits are part of the intensified neocolonial plunder under neo-liberalism.

This step becomes all the more significant in the context of the proposed 'nuclear liability bill' that exempts American nuclear companies from their responsibilities including adequate compensation in the event of a nuclear tragedy in the plants operated by them in India. Remaining restraints on the inflows and outflows of foreign speculative capital in the highly sensitive real estate and stock markets are also being taken away.

The 2010-11 budget is significant in the sense that it almost completes the process of transforming the role of the government from that of an 'initiator' of economic activity to that of a mere 'facilitator', thereby shedding the last vestiges of Keynesianism in economic policy. For, henceforth all new initiatives in basic and key industries which are hitherto dominated by public sector, infrastructural areas and service sectors will be under the so called "public-private partnership" (PPP) which is nothing but a euphemism for unhindered privatization. Under this scheme, the government's involvement will be that of providing land, water, road, power, etc to the projects under the control of private corporates who can reap huge profits on a "build, own and operate" basis by employing cheap labour and utilizing the scarce national resources which will be just like "government grants" to them.

Disinvestment of profit making PSUs including even the so-called "navaratnas" at throw away prices to speculative giants is also done under the guise of "people's participation" in public sector. Mukherjee proposes to mobilize more than Rs. 40000 crores in this manner and this revenue is incorporated under the new head of "Miscellaneous Capital receipts" in the budget. Along with the "public-private participation" mentioned above, this neo-liberal agenda will put the private corporate sector at the 'commanding heights' of the economy.

Another striking aspect of this privatization agenda is the 'denationalisation' project with respect to banking initiated through the budget. Together with backdoor privatization of existing nationalized banks through dilution of state ownership, outsourcing and channeling of their funds to stock markets, the budget has taken the decision to issue licenses to big corporate sharks who have amassed fabulous wealth through speculation for starting banks. To cap it all, in order to carry out liberalization of the financial sector to its logical culmination of full integration with imperialist capital market, it is proposed to set up a Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission to "rewrite and clean up the financial sector laws to bring them in line with the requirements of the sector." To institutionalize this a new mechanism known as Financial Stability and Development Council is also envisaged.

Instead of controlling inflation through strengthening the public

The 2010-11 budget is significant in the sense that it almost completes the process of transforming the role of the government from that of an 'initiator' of economic activity to that of a mere 'facilitator', thereby shedding the last vestiges of Keynesianism in economic policy. For, henceforth all new initiatives in basic and key industries which are hitherto dominated by public sector, infrastructural areas and service sectors will be under the so called "public-private partnership" which is nothing but a euphemism for unhindered privatization.

procurement and public distribution system, the neo-liberal solution put forward in the budget is further "opening up" of retail trade to corporate houses and MNCs. In a recent interview, Manmohan Singh, the architect of neo-liberal globalization in India has said that the opening up of retail trade will stimulate competition and lowering of prices. Based on this *Manmohanomics*, the budget resolutely upholds opening up of retail trade as the only option available for "bringing down the considerable difference between farm-gate, wholesale and retail prices". No doubt, the objective here is globalization of commodity prices which are driven by global commodity speculators and drive out the millions of self employed petty and small traders from the market altogether.

This market fundamentalism is presented as the ideal alternative to government intervention in the market through nation-wide net work of public procurement and public distribution on the one hand, and stringent control over all kinds of commodity speculators and abolition of speculative futures trading altogether on the other. Instead what the budget proposes is the leasing out of FCI godowns to private food grain speculators for hoarding and black marketing leading to their sky-rocketing prices.

In this context it would be in order to look into the budget's entire approach towards subsidies, especially food subsidies. Compared with the 2009-10 budget, in the budget for 2010-11 when the country undergoes an unprecedented double digit food inflation (while the over all inflation hovers around 10 percent, food prices are increasing by 19 percent as of now) food subsidy is lower by Rs. 400 crores. Taking inflation into consideration, the real food subsidy will be several thousand crores less than the previous year. In fact, the total food and agricultural subsidy in the 2010-11 budget has declined to Rs. 1.16 lakh crores from Rs. 1.31 crores in the 2009-10 budget.

This happens when the total budget expenditure claims an 8.5 percent growth compared to the previous year. This undoubtedly exposes the true intentions of the government. In a country like India having wide variations in the production of food with some states producing surplus food while others are deficit, the government should come forward for a system of food procurement at prices that provide farmers adequate support that covers their costs and must ensure that basic food grain is transported from surplus to deficit areas of the country, through the strengthening of a system public distribution with adequate buffer stocks that protects the country from international price volatility and external dependence.

On the other hand, it is reliably learned that in the coming days Manmohan government will increasingly withdraw from public distribution system leaving the entire food grain market to speculators. It is also reported that the government is intending to sell its food grain stock through open market controlled by

private speculators such as Reliance who alone has invested Rs. 25000 crores for speculation in food grains. At the same time, Mukherjee himself has made a mockery of the anti-inflationary measures by earmarking Rs.300 crore for 60,000 "pulses and oilseeds villages", Rs.400 crore for extending the "Green Revolution" to the eastern region of the country, and Rs.200 crore for sustaining the gains made in Green Revolution areas through "conservative farming" which he said will augment the supply of food grains in the country in the long run. This is nothing but trivialising the whole budget exercise.

On the other hand, the budget 2010-11 has announced a number of pro-agribusiness steps, such as private participation in storage, setting up of private cold storage and cold room facility for agricultural and marine products and meat including the accessing of external commercial borrowing, all of which ensure corporate-agribusiness hegemony over food agriculture. This is to be read along with the Indo-US strategic agricultural collaboration already agreed upon by Manmohan Singh in his last visit to US. The so called agricultural credit schemes announced in the budget with much fanfare will flow to these agribusiness sector driving landless poor peasants and small farmers to the peripheries of flourishing speculative economy.

No doubt, the biggest blow against the common people is with respect to the spot rise in oil prices which has raised both the prices of petrol and diesel by approximately Rs. 3 each with immediate effect. Gone are the Keynesian days when the government used to spare diesel prices on account of its wider and deeper cascading effect in the entire productive sectors of economy. For neo-liberal experts who are for giving all encouragement to speculation over production any such differentiation is unwarranted. It is also reported that the government is contemplating to

raise even kerosene prices through extra-budgetary measures. It is also said that the government based on Kirit Parikh Committee recommendations is intending to link domestic petroleum prices to world prices. Such integration with global oil market will lead to speculative petroleum price fluctuations and the consequent exorbitant rise in domestic oil prices and domination of imperialist oil companies over the country.

The sudden increase in petroleum prices in the context of double-digit inflation has the effect of adding fuel to the fire as far as the toiling people are concerned. It is estimated that almost 53 percent of the price component of petroleum products in India is composed of various central and state taxes. Instead of reducing them the Manmohan government has once again increased the customs and excise duties on petroleum products such that India remains as one of the countries having the highest petroleum prices in the world. . Further, an across the board 10 percent hike in excise duty announced in the budget on all items will raise price and inflation several fold paving the way for untold miseries to the working class and broad masses of people.

The much publicized hike in social sector spending and rural development outlays are hollow and even relatively lower compared to the previous budget. At the outset, it should be stated that as a proportion of GDP, the expenditure on social

services in spite of rhetoric on social welfare has been stagnant for the last several years. Central plan outlay on rural development which is slated to increase by a mere 6.6 per cent and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) which is projected to increase by a paltry 2.5 percent over 2009-10, when adjusted for double digit inflation means an absolute decline in real terms. In fact as already noted, relative to the previous year, the total budget expenditure itself is declining as it represents only a nominal increase of 8.5 percent.

It should be understood in relation to the accelerated withdrawal of the state from social and developmental sectors under neo-liberalism. While the Economic Survey and the Budget mince no words in highlighting the “fast-paced recovery” and high growth rate of the economy in the context of the global economic recession, it has not at all influenced the life of the workers and peasants in the country. The sprawling speculative, money spinning service sector has not at all yielded long term sustainable employment and whatever employment is created belongs to the unorganized and informal sectors.

Consequently, vast majority of the working people are forced to cling on to the shrinking agriculture and allied sectors. The Economic Survey, despite its enthusiasm for the money spinning spheres is forced to admit the pauperization taking place in the countryside such that the agricultural and allied sectors show a decline of 0.2 per cent during 2009-10. This has been the situation throughout the neo-liberal period. Agriculture and allied activities grew at only 1.6 per cent in 2008-09. According to the Survey between 2004-05 and 2009-10, the share of agriculture and allied sectors in GDP has declined from 18.9 to 14.6 per cent, that of industry has stagnated at 28 per cent and the share of services has gone up from 53.2 per cent to 57.2 per cent. No corresponding shift in the labour force across sectors seems to have occurred, which is an indication of the growing unemployment and under employment and the extent of the “dependency load” on the dwindling agrarian sector.

However, the budgetary exercise continues to be a medium for transferring wealth to the corporate and elite sections at the expense of the vast majority of unemployed, underemployed and poverty-stricken masses. Every year, hundreds of thousands of crores are being transferred to the rich through very large amounts of corporate and income tax revenues foregone and through various tax concessions provided to land mafia, real estate developers, exporters, stock brokers and on account of developing neo-colonial projects such as SEZs, townships, tourism zones, agribusiness zones, etc. and especially in the name of economic stimulus packages in recent years.

This budget alone has provided about one lakh crore as various tax exemptions to the rich. While the neo-liberal experts and neo-colonial elites are making a hue and cry of the “heavy subsidies” on public distribution catering to the poor, during 2009-10, the tax revenues forgone on account of exemptions provided amounted to Rs. 80,000 crore in respect of corporate income tax, Rs. 41,000 crore in respect of personal income tax, and Rs.4,20,000 crore in respect of excise and customs duties taken together. In fact, between 2007 and 2009, tax revenue foregone under corporate income tax amounted to Rs. 131000 crores. It is estimated that taking the three consecutive budgets, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 together, the total tax concessions to the corporate tax payers and rich sections amount to almost Rs. 500000 crores.

An interesting neo-liberal trend with respect to the resource mobilization effort of the state is also visible in the budget and, of course, in the pre-budget economic survey too. That is the heavy reliance on non-tax revenues, especially “user charges” on almost all services provided either by the state or by corporate sectors. This enables the government to keep a posture of low tax burden on the

Sakhav

Organ of Kerala State
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people, while the government's major source of revenue becomes various "user charges" on water supply, transport services, health, education, waste management, agricultural services, etc., under dictates from neo-colonial agencies such as World Bank and Asian Development Bank. On account of agricultural retrogression, industrial stagnation and all round economic recession coupled with inflation, as the real earnings and purchasing power of the masses are dwindling, their taxable capacity is abysmally low. And since the government is reluctant to tax the affluent rich and ballooning speculative sectors, "user charges" have become the most convenient form of neo-liberal resource mobilization in neocolonial countries in recent years.

As a result of this neo-liberal economic philosophy, the public resource base of the economy is made thin. This naturally leads to the persistence of low public spending in the country on social sectors. The tax-GDP ratio of the central government in this year's budget is just 10.8 per cent. If all the tax concessions and exemptions including those provided in the name of stimulus packages are taken away, the government would have gained a total tax collection equal to almost 19 percent of the GDP which means an additional revenue worth more than 8 percent of the GDP in 2010-11. This is a clear manifestation of the comprador character of the Indian state.

To conclude, under neo-liberalism when the role of the state itself is shifting from that of an 'initiator' of economic activity to that of a mere 'facilitator' the over all size of the budget is bound to decrease and crucial economic decisions are to be taken through extra-budgetary measures unlike in erstwhile Keynesian period. At a time when food inflation is 19 percent and general inflation is about 12 percent, though 2010-11 budget represents a nominal increase of 8 percent

over the previous budget, in real terms the former would be less than the latter. There is no additional resource mobilisation through direct taxes on the flourishing speculative spheres of the economy while the entire burden of additional revenue mobilization falls on the shoulders of poor people in the form of indirect taxes and non-tax revenues such as user charges.

In spite of the relative reduction in spending, Mukherjee maintains a huge deficit solely because of the huge concessions and exemptions bestowed on super rich and affluent sections. This budget is anti-people as it will raise prices of all essential items and services, aggravate the gap between the well-to-do and the poor, worsen unemployment, pauperise the workers and peasants and above all will raise the neocolonial plunder over the country to hitherto unknown levels. People should come forward resisting it tooth and nail. ●

We mourn the death of Shahid Azmi

ON February 11, 2010, 32 year old Advocate Shahid Azmi was gunned down in his office in Mumbai by three men posing as clients. The assassins managed to escape in a waiting auto rickshaw. The police then claimed that Azmi had been killed by some "patriotic underworld gang" who wanted to punish Azmi for taking up cases of suspected Muslim terrorists. Three men were later arrested and a story was put out that they had been hired to kill Azmi by a don called Bharat Nepali, earlier a cohort of Chota Rajan. The facts, however, point in other more plausible directions. Who would benefit by Azmi's death? As an article in a recent issue of Tehelka has said "...the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, RAW and the Intelligence Bureau, whose grand constructs on terrorism Azmi demolished each time he won a case."

Shahid Azmi led a turbulent and rebellious life. When he was in his mid-teens he saw his co-religionists slaughtered in the 1992-93 anti-Muslim carnage in Mumbai. He left Mumbai went to Kashmir joined the militants there, but he did not last very long and soon returned home to his family. Upon his return to Mumbai, he was falsely implicated and arrested under TADA for the attempted assassination of a political leader, prosecuted and convicted and sent to Tihar jail where he spent the remaining of his teenage years. In appeal, Shahid was acquitted by the Supreme Court. When he was in jail he pursued his studies with the active encouragement and assistance of Kiran Bedi. After his release from Tihar he completed LL.B. and began practising law in Mumbai and took up many criminal cases and raised important legal issues before the Bombay High Court and the Supreme Court. What most distressed him, and which formed a bulk of his professional work, was the way in which the Muslim youth were targeted by the state and falsely implicated in criminal cases, as was he as a boy of 15 years.

Shahid Azmi was passionate about justice, and used the law courts to seek redress of injustices of any kind. His compassion for people did not know any religious or ethnic barriers, it was universal. Shahid had a brilliant, astute mind, a thirst for knowledge and a kind, loving heart. He combined moral courage with legal acumen. His work was his politics and his life.

Shahid's quest for justice led him to join the Committee for Protection of Democratic Rights (Mumbai) and the Indian Association of People's Lawyers, of which he was an active member.

Various people's organizations have demanded a judicial inquiry into the murder of Shahid Azmi and the circumstances which led to his assassination, and have asked that the guilty be brought to book according to the law. ●

Sanobar Keshwaar

March 8: International Women's Day

Orissa: On 8th March AIRWO Odisha committee organised a massive meeting at Inquilab Bhaban, Bhubaneswar to observe *International Women's Day*. The meeting was presided by comrade Pramila, state president of AIRWO. Welcome speech was given by com Indumati, state secretary. Com. Jyotshna Mohanty, a senior leader of women's movement in state inaugurate the formal membership drive of the organisation. Women leader Namita Patnaik, Domestic Women Workers Union leader Sandhyarani Pradhan, Adivasi Women leader Sunita Pradhan, Sanjukta Kanhar, Anti-liquor movement leader of Bhadrak Tunilata Jena, Sukanti Jena, Teachers organization leader Sumitra Das, Slum movement leader Laxmipriya Lenka and others spoke in the meeting regarding the problems faced by the women in the neo-colonial social system.

Kerala: The State Organising Committee of AIRWO observed March 8, the International Women's Day in Kerala with a statewide campaign. Thousands of printed posters highlighting the central slogans adopted at the Chennai Meeting were used for the campaign during the first week of March preceding the Women's Day. On March 8 in two districts, namely Trissur and Ernakulam, rallies and public meetings were held under the auspices of AIWRO. In Trissur, the public meeting was inaugurated by CPI(ML) Central Committee member com. by PJ James and presided over by com. CA Hazeena, Central Committee member of AIWRO. Com. RK Asha Central Executive Committee member of AIWRO, comrades Kumari, Vasanthi and Rajesh Appaatt, CPI(ML) Trissur district secretary spoke on the occasion. In Ernakulam the public meeting was inaugurated by Com PN Provint, State Acting Secretary of CPI(ML). The meeting was presided over by Com KS Sindhu, State convener and Central Committee member of AIWRO. Comrades Sheeba, Bindu, Devoo and other felicitated the gathering.

Karnataka: The International Women's Day was observed in various districts of the state with different programmes preceded by vigorous campaigns in which hundreds of women actively participated. In Kodagu, the 8th March was observed by organising a meeting at Manasa Hall in Somvarpet. More than 50 women activists from different areas and good number of local people participated. Com. Vidyamani, state president of AIRWO along with comrades Vanajakshi, Kusumavati addressed the meeting. Com. DS Nirwanappa, CPI(ML) state executive committee member, addressed the meeting calling for intensifying the struggle for women's liberation in all field.

In Chikmangalore after observing two minutes silence for the women comrades who became martyrs in various people's struggles a hall meeting was organised on the occasion of International Women's Day. All India

Revolutionary Women's Organisation (AIRWO) leading coms. Kavitha, state secretary, Lalitha and Rukmini spoke.

At Koppal town more than 100 women workers from various industries where women are mainly engaged, participated in the programme addressed by AIRWO leading comrades Malika Poojar, Vidya Nalawad, Khojabee and Ramjabee. Com. DH Poojar, state president of TUCI addressed the meeting explaining the need for organising the women workers for the struggle for the their emancipation. At Raichur hundreds of women participated in the meeting inaugurated by com. R. Manasayya, the CEC member of CPI(ML). Comrades Shankaramma, Chennamma and Bosamma of AIRWO addressed the meeting. The various challenges faced by the women's liberation movement were discussed in detail.

Kanpur: Led by comrades Minu and Rajanti Devi more than one thousand members of the *Gharelu Mahila Kamgar Union* participated in a militant rally with red flags from Mahadevi Chouraha to Shikshak Park Parade, nearly 10 kms, on the occasion of the *International Women's Day*. The participants raised slogans highlighting the women's demands and problems faced by the working women. Union leaders and other comrades explaining the significance of observing *International Women's Day* in order to forge the unity of women in the struggle against increasing attacks on them in the context of neo-liberal policies.

Andhra Pradesh: The *International Women's Day* was observed at Sanga Reddy, Medak district in which about 150 women comrades participated. Led by com. Padamakka the rally and public meeting attracted lot of public attention. Explaining the importance of the Day and the need to struggle for women's emancipation in all fields leaders of AIRWO and CPI(ML) spoke.

Gujarat: Punaruthan Mahila Sanghatan of Ahmedabad organised a meeting on March 8 on the occasion of International Women's Day in which more than one hundred women participated. Com. Dayamanti Parekh and other leading comrades of the Sanghatan spoke highlighting the necessity for fighting for women's demands.

Tamil Nadu: International Women's Day was observed by conducting public meeting at Madurai under the banner of the AIRWO. All India Organizing committee members, Com. Kasthuri inaugurated the meeting. CPI(ML) State secretary com. PT Shanmuga Sundaram explained the similarities between the bourgeois women's organization and CPI, CPM led women's organizations. He stressed on the importance of the building of AIRWO with revolutionary orientation towards women's liberation. Com. K. Arumugam, Vijaya Gopal and leading comrades of AIRWO spoke. ●

RYFI Observe 23rd March as Anti-Imperialist Day

THE Central Executive Committee of *Revolutionary Youth Federation of India* (RYFI) in its meeting on 7th March at Bhopal has called for: Observe March 23rd Bhagat Singh Martyr day as Anti-Imperialist day; Organize National Membership Campaign on 23rd March; Observe whole April month as Anti-Price rise struggle month; Develop and Strengthen Committees at all levels; Enforce building the organization at the root level.

It evaluated that the All India Conference held at Bangalore on January 30-31, 2010 was politically a great success. This conference was an important step towards building a true revolutionary movement which is free from the reformist and anarchist deviations. This conference has its own political importance because it proclaimed to strike at the root of casteism, blind nationalism and other reactionary forces, to break the chains of slavery of Neo colonialisation, intensify struggle for real freedom, and to fulfill the great revolutionary aspirations.

The meeting of RYFI all India executive committee decided to begin membership campaign at all India level on Martyrs day of Martyr Bhagat Singh. All the comrades shall conduct the campaign in full spirit and till 31st May at least 20,000 members should be enrolled. Membership campaign should be conducted for the whole year. State Committee/ State organizational committee should be formed in all states and in those states where there is no State Committee and state organizational committee they should immediately form committees. Under State committee/State organizational committee district committee/area committee and if possible form committees at panchayat/city/town/municipal wards and implement committee systems. In this way not only the number of the youth members will increase but also the work at the root level can be extended in an effective manner. Organisational work should be taken up as a challenge and every possible effort should be done to fulfill it.

The CEC called for observing 23rd March as anti-imperialist day at all India level with slogan: "Fight Against Neo-colonial Slavery, Intensify Second Independence Struggle." Youth and toiling masses are seriously affected by imperialist globalization policies. The clutches of neo-colonial slavery is intensifying that makes life impossible.

Focusing on the following slogans, April month shall be observed as Anti-Price rise campaign month at all India level: No starvation, No suicide, but seize the godowns; Fix prices or face the fury of the masses; Education for all, Work for all till then no rest at all; Down with Gang culture and ramp culture, develop Democratic culture.

Odisha: RYFI Observed Anti-Imperialist Day on March 23

As per the decision RYFI All India Executive Committee, Odisha state committee decided to observe March 23, Comrade Bhagat Singh Martyrdom Day as Anti-Imperialist Day. On that day at Bhubaneswar, Badamba of Cuttak district and Dipabadi of Bhadrak district Martyrs memorial meetings were organized. On behalf of Bhubaneswar area committee of RYFI at Jayadev Vihar square a public meeting was held presided by com. Raghunath. Meeting was started after observing two minutes silence and paying floral tribute at *Shaihd Vedi* by participants. RYFI leaders comrades Harihar, Artatrana, Sureswar Dhal and N. Yasoda spoke. CPI(ML) state secretary com. Sivaram, TUCI state president com. Jayadev and Basti Surakshya Mancha leader Santosh Das in their speeches appealed to join the 2nd independence struggle against neo-colonial slavery. Comrades of RYFI sang revolutionary songs before the meeting.

At Badamba in Cuttak district martyrs memorial meeting was held at Badamba Bazar. It was presided over by chairman of Gana Sahitya Samukshya com. Dhruba Rana. The meeting was addressed by Human Rights activist Adv. Biswapriya Kanungo, adv Prasanta Jena, social worker



Mohmed Amin and other left intellectuals. All members of RYFI Badamba Area Committee participated in this meeting. In the evening a separate meeting was held at Sanskrit toll, near Badamba Bazar presided by RYFI state president com. Sabyasachi.

At Dipabadi, meeting was presided by RYFI Bhadrak district committee member com. Sukumari Jena. It was addressed by coms. Manoj Nayak, Manasi, Reeta and others. CPI(ML) Bhadrak district committee secretary comrade Susanta and AIRWO state secretary comrade Indumati also spoke and appealed to the youths to join the second independence struggle.

Cycle Rally by RYFI at Bhubaneswar

On 21st March a cycle rally with RYFI flags and festoons started at 10 AM from RYFI state office Inquilab Bhawan and it reached back at evening 6.30 PM. Shouting slogans, distributing leaflets and organizing street corner meetings at various places the cycle rally reached at Maa tarini Basti near Damana High school. Taking launch there organized by RYFI branch committee, again the rally started and toured all over Bhubaneswar before it reached office. Before cycle rally a week long campaign was organized appealing to join 2nd independent struggle and to observe March 23 as Anti-Imperialist Day.

Chhattisgarh: Seminar on Martyrs Day

The martyrs day was observed at Raipur remembering the martyr comrades Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev on 23 March as *Anti-Imperialist Day* at the call of RYFI. A seminar on “Anti-imperialist Movement, Bhagat Singh and Contemporary Youth” was organised on the occasion at Mayaram Surjan Smriti Bhavan. Main participants in the discussion including com. Ravi Srivastav, president PWA, com. Tuhin Dev, convener of progressive cultural front and com. Urmila of All India Revolutionary Women’s Organisation (AIRWO) stressed the need for youth to wage unrelenting struggles to complete the tasks of the independence struggle in the present context of neo-



colonial slavery. Com. Minhas Asad presided while com. Dilip of RYFI conducted the programme. The seminar was attended by a good number of youth and leading members of progressive and democratic organisations. The relevance of the call of the RYFI to “*Intensify Second Independence Struggle to End Neo-Colonial Slavery*” was endorsed by the speakers while explaining the challenges faced by the youth and other sections of people.

Maharashtra: RYFI Observes Shahid Bhagat Singh Day at Nanded

On 25th March the RYFI Nanded district committee, the AIRWO and AIKSS district committee observed the martyrdom of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev at Dharmabad, starting with a padayatra of more than 200 comrades for a distance of five kilometres. It was led by RYFI leading comrades Ajit and Dyara Thurarao and AIRWO leader com. Sobha. *Jana Sanskritia Sangha* from Raichur (Karnataka) participated in the padayatra. Raising slogan hailing the martyrdom of comrades and denouncing the anti-people policies of the government the padayatra inspired the people.

In the afternoon from 2 PM a seminar on the role of youth in present situation in our country was organised. Leading comrades of the party including com. Laxman Sontake, com. Sobha of AIRWO and com. Salim of RYFI addressed the seminar.

W. Bengal: Shahid Divas at Titagarh

Under the leadership of RYFI the Shahid Bhagat Singh Day was observed as *Anti-imperialist Day* at Titagarh. Com. Shankar Das, joint secretary of RYFI Central Committee and other comrades spoke highlighting the task of overthrowing the neo-colonial slavery.

Karnataka: Martyrs Day Observed

Shahid Bhagat Singh Day was observed as *Anti-Imperialist Day* on 23rd March as per the call of RYFI Central Committee at various districts in the state. At Koppal district a day long cycle jatha was organised. It went round important centres organising street corner meetings along with cultural programmes. It propagated the call for intensifying second independence struggle for throwing out the neo-colonial slavery.

In Kodagu district, the district level padayatra started on 21st and culminated on 23rd March evening with a public meeting led by district committee of RYFI. The cultural troupe of RYFI accompanied the padayatra. At more than 20 places street meetings were organised explaining the message of RYFI. In Chikmangalore also padayatra was organised by RYFI comrades during which 15 street corner meetings were held and cultural programmes presented. The message of RYFI was taken to the youth and new comrades were recruited.

The district level campaign started on March 19 will be continued till 31st March touching almost all main centres of the Raichur district. The message of RYFI is taken to youth and people through thousands of handbills and street corner meetings.

MP: RYFI Observed Anti-Imperialist Day at Bhopal on 23rd March

At the culmination of a month long campaign in Bhopal city through poster, distribution of handbills, cultural programmes and street corner meetings the Shahid Bhagat Singh Day was observed on March 23 as Anti-Imperialist Day. In the course of campaign the police tried to harass the comrades in different ways including arresting four comrades on 19th March for putting handwritten posters! The police argument was that hand-written posters are explosive and provocative when only anti-imperialist slogans along with the call to intensify the second independence struggle were written. These slogans are provocative for the police in this BJP ruled state.

In spite of this police provocation the RYFI successfully completed the campaign and organised a public seminar on 23rd March on "Anti-Imperialist Struggle in Present Situation and the Role of Youth". Com. Kailash Srivastva, senior journalist presided. Leading comrades of CPI(ML) and RYFI including comrade Vijay Kumar, general secretary, RYFI addressed the well attended meeting calling for overthrowing the neo-colonial slavery.

Barnala: Shahid Bhagat Singh Remembered

In Punjab at Barnala RYFI organised programme remembering Shahid Bhagat Singh and highlighting the importance of intensifying second independence struggle to throw out neo-colonial slavery. Com. Labh Singh, leading member of the CPI(ML) and other comrades spoke on this occasion.

Allahabad: Shahid Day Observed

Youth comrades of RYFI and other leading comrades of various progressive organisations joined hands to observe Shahid Bhagat Singh Day on 23rd March. Com. Ravindra Singh, joint secretary of the RYFI central committee and other comrades spoke to intensify the struggle against the reactionary ruling system.

TN: Public Meeting Remembering Martyrs

The Shahid Bhagat Singh martyrs day was observed 28th March at MGR Nagar, Chennai by Revolutionary Youth Federation of India (RYFI) as Anti-Imperialist Day along with Puratchigara Makkal Paasara. It was addressed by comrades Priya, state president of RYFI, Velmurugan, treasurer, Kaalan Durai, state organizer of PMP, Gajendra Kumar, Vedhanayagam, RYFI district committee member, and com. Vijayan gave vote of thanks. ●

AP: Seminar on Neo-colonisation and Path of Indian Revolution

A PARTY activists meeting was held on 21st afternoon and 22nd morning, in which activists and supporters of Party line from eight districts participated. Earlier they were activists or supporters of CPI(ML) Janashakti group, CPI(ML) Liberation, MCPI, etc. Following it on 22nd March seminar on *Neo-colonisation and Path of Indian Revolution* was held from 6 to 9 PM at the Press Club Hall, Hyderabad.

Com. Padma presided. After remembering the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Indian revolution, com. Sadanandam welcomed the speakers and comrades attending the Seminar. Then presenting the subject com. KN Ramachandran explained how the imperialist camp led by US imperialism had transformed its colonial policies to neo-colonial policies through a series of measures and building up necessary instruments to resort to plunder through imperialist capital and hegemony over market system.

He said that failing to grasp this while Soviet Union and the parties led by it degenerated to right opportunist path, through the formulations adopted by the 1969 Ninth Congress of the CPC and consequently by CPI(ML) like parties upholding it as the 'authority' degenerated to left adventurist line. Both these deviations have inflicted severe setbacks to the international communist movement. In spite of it both CPI-CPI(M) like parties and the various Naxalite groups and Maoists are mechanically clinging to their erroneous positions. CPI(ML) in its 2009 Bhopal Conference by developing the Marxist-Leninist analysis on contemporary imperialism and the neo-colonisation of India has put forward the Path of Indian Revolution according to the present concrete conditions. He called for unity of all Marxist-Leninist forces based on this ideological-political line.

Com. M. Prabhakar, member of the state organising committee (SOC) explained the relevance of the Marxist-Leninist forces uniting and building a powerful party organisation in present AP conditions when including the CPI(Maoist), and CPI(M) all organisations are facing disintegration. Com. R. Manasayya also addressed the seminar. After com. KN replying to the questions which were raised the seminar successfully concluded.

The APSOC has decided to build Party committees in all districts where activists have come forward and to build all class/mass organisations soon. The participation of a good number of youth and students has provided a new fillip to the Party building in AP. ●

Kolkata: Seminar on Significance of Developing Ideological Line in Party Building

THE merger between CPI(ML) and CCR(ML) has taken place. It was formally announced along with a seminar titled “Present International and National Situation and the Tasks of the Communist Revolutionaries” on 6th March 2010, at Theosophical Society Hall, Kolkata. In seminar the speakers were, comrades KN Ramachandran, Sanjay Singhvi, Mona Sur, Alik Chakraborty and Shankar Das. The Seminar was presided by comrades Sharmistha Choudhury, Gautam Choudhury and Ravi Pallur.

Addressing The seminar Com. KNR, General Secretary of CPI(ML) said that in the present situation is becoming more and more conducive to build a real communist party. He said that at home and abroad an anti imperialist struggle and struggle against neo-colonial slavery is getting impetus from the on going economic crisis of imperialism. People have no way out except fighting against imperialism and so the concrete situation is showing vigorously that socialism is the only alternative. He explained the concrete analysis of the concrete situation is must to achieve this, the failure of which is the main limitation of Indian Communist Revolutionaries that has dented the leading ability of them to retain the enormous advancement of the past. As a result the CRs adopted the erroneous line of ‘protracted people’s war’ as advocated by CPI(ML)’s 1970 document causing its gradual disintegration and marginalization in Indian political scenario.

International Communist movement faced setback due to the failure to realize the changed policy-framework of imperialism from direct colonial policy to neo-colonial policy.

Com. Sanjay Singhvi explained the current situation and stressed on the need to build the party on the basis of profound theoretical struggle. Com. Mona Sur put emphasis to develop proper communication technique with the people



to reach them with our revolutionary propaganda. The seminar was advanced by Com. Alik Chakraborty, the secretary of erstwhile CCR(ML). He explained the importance to build a real working class party in the present opportune juncture by developing an enriched theoretical foundation based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Thought. He said emphatically that in the past the failure to organize the working class as the leading class of revolution was the reason to damage caused to the advancement of CRs in the main. Com. Shankar Das said that in CRs today must keep the changing situation in account in every sphere of socio-political area to develop the correct party line. Along with a cultural battle should be intensified against imperialism today.

Some individual workers and intellectuals of the city and some comrades of fraternal organization attended the seminar. Political workers and followers also attended the seminar with a great enthusiasm. Seminar was conducted in organized way by the presidium and enriched by opening and concluding speech by Com. Sharmistha Choudhury and Com. Gautam Choudhury on behalf of presidium respectively. ●

Tamil Nadu: Seminar on Neo-colonisation

ON March 9 a *Seminar on Neo-colonisation* was held in Chennai at Porur with com. Kovai Eswaran, a veteran communist presiding and com. Kalan Dorai, member of the state executive committee of CPI(ML) conducting the proceedings. The Seminar started with a presentation by com. Priya, president of RYFI Tamilnadu state committee and member of the AIRWO TN state committee on the significance of observing *International Women’s Day* on 8th March and on the formation of AIRWO. Apart from CPI(ML) activists more than 20 veteran comrades who have spend decades in the communist movement as well as young activists participated in the one day seminar from morning 11 AM to evening 5 PM.

Com. KN Ramachandran presented the CPI(ML)’s approach towards the transformation of imperialist plunder during and after the Second World War from colonial to neo-colonial forms and the Path of Revolution to be pursued in India under neo-colonial conditions. He explained that similar to the collapse of *Second International* due to the failure of its leadership to correctly evaluate the transformation of capitalism to monopoly capitalism, imperialism, the present debacle faced by the international communist movement is due to the dissolution of Comintern (Communist or Third International) and the failure of the communist leaderships to understand the neo-colonial forms of plunder. The degeneration of CPI(M)-led forces to right opportunism and CPI(ML) following the Lin Biaoist

line which dominated the CPC in its 1969 Congress to left adventurist positions should be understood in this background. Today reorganisation of the CPI(ML) and making it capable of leading the democratic revolution to victory is possible only by making a correct analysis of these developments following the Second World War. In this context he also explained the importance of re-organising the Comintern according to present conditions.

Following this presentation there was a lively debate in which practically all the participants came out with their views. Comrades Sugantan, Eshagiri Raman, NS, Sreenivasan, Kaviarasu, Mendaneyan, Vottichelian, Samban and finally Kovai Eswaran raised various aspects of the polemics going on in the communist movement. They were apprehensive in upholding the CPI(ML) position on neo-colonialism. Com. Kovai Eswaran wanted further explanations on difference between colonial and neo-colonial phase, history of the emergence of comprador class, reasons for the crisis in the imperialist system, approach to inter-imperialist contradictions, on principal contradiction and on nationality question during neo-colonial phase. Com. Eshagiri Raman was still confined to the line of Bolshevik group in TN. Though com Sreenivasan has left CPI(ML) Liberation, he was not clear on the way ahead.

This lengthy discussion was followed by a reply by com. KNR to each and every point raised. The reply helped each and every one present to accept that just by repeating the same old criticism of CPI and CPI(M) or sticking to positions of different groups, all of which make a semi-colonial, semi-feudal analysis of India and 'protracted people's war' as the path of revolution the present setbacks cannot be overcome. Necessity for a fresh approach to the polemics in the International Communist Movement, towards analysing post-1947 Indian situation, on the approach towards imperialist onslaughts in the present phase etc. were recognised by many. The day long seminar has helped to break the ice towards launching a vigorous struggle to develop the ideological-political line and path of revolution in India. ●

Odisha: Slum Dwellers Resistance Struggle

ONCE again attack on slum dwellers has started in Bhubaneswar. On 16th December 2009 around fifty houses of Narayani Basti were demolished in the name of demolishing insecure Bachelor barrack. They were not even served notice before. The slum dwellers of Narayani Basti were strong supporters of Navin Patnaik's BJD. They were not allowing other parties even for doing propaganda. The Mayor of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation is Corporator from that ward. The mayor and the government



had given assurance not to evict them and to rehabilitate them before eviction. So since last 5 years they were not part of slum movement. In Bhubaneswar Slum dwellers united resistance movement is continuing since last 6 years led by **Basti Surakshya Mancha**. In last 6 years the government had to return back in 72 places without demolishing because of slum dwellers massive resistance.

Out of those slums which were not part of the movement, some slums were demolished by conspiracy through touts and dalals. There also, after demolition people were organized. They started movement and re-captured the land and till now they are living there. In this resistance movement many of our comrades were injured in fighting with police and goons. Hundreds of cases registered against our organisers. Many times they arrested some of our comrades. But the struggling people gheraoing the police station have taken them back from police station itself. So now everywhere government is promoting their dalals to do their work. Through their dalals and conspiracy at one place, that is, at one part of Bisweswari Basti, they were able to evict the slum dwellers. Except some dalals many people now understood the conspiracy. So the strength of struggling people is developing.

To evict the Narayani Basti and capture the most valuable land at the heart of the city near by Vidhan Sabha their conspiracy once again failed due to the joint resistance struggle. After 16 December 2009 demolition they understood the conspiracy and joined hands with **BSM** and started struggling with other slum dwellers. They got united and formed MARAN SENA (Die hard army) like the

"Sreni Sangram"

Monthly Organ of Odisha State
Committee of CPI(ML)

Inquilab Bhavan
Plot No - 1819, (Opposite N-6/10)
IRC Village
Bhubaneshwar,
Odisha - 751 015



ones formed in other slums. On 8th, 9th and 10th February for 3 days continuously the BDA, GA and BMC with big police and armed forces and anti-socials elements attacked and tried to demolish and evict the slum dwellers of Maa Narayani. But they heroically fought against it. When other slum dwellers saw that they are fighting since 2 days, on third day more forces joined them. From near-by 8 to 10 slums masses were joined with their resistance struggle with traditional arms. Finally authorities had to return back with their bull dozers.

Gherao of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Against demolition Narayani slum and to provide rehabilitation of those whose houses were demolished and to implement Slum Dwellers Act and not to provide land to corporate houses more than three hundred dwellers of that slum took out a rally from their slum and reached Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation and gheraoed it for more than 3 hours. They submitted a memorandum to Municipal Commissioner and chief minister Navin Patnaik. It was announced that before proper rehabilitation in the same place with land right they are not going to leave the place. If necessary they are ready to die for that. Now they have re-captured all the land and again constructed houses with help of other slum dwellers.

Movement Against NGO's Exploitation of Youth

In Bhubaneswar a big NGO Ruchika Social Service Organization (RSSO) is working in slum areas and in platforms and in other places. In the name of slum dwellers healthcare, education and for their developments projects it is getting crores of Rupees. But its workers are not getting even minimum wages. In a government project of Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan the AIE-EV teachers are paid only Rs. 1000 by this NGO. As per the guideline of the school and mass education it cannot be less than Rs. 1750. It is written that no NGO can provide less than Rs. 1750. When the NGO workers came to know this fact they started protesting and demanded for the declared wages. But the NGO having nexus with the officers and authorities was not ready to pay it. Under various pleas they started illegal retrenchment.

It compelled all workers to sign one year contract. But the workers were disagreed to sign. Then those who were opposing illegal action were kicked out. Against it they have gone to district labour office. The NGO showed them as social workers, not as workers. So the conciliation failed. Report was sent to the court. Because of severe unemployment and hunger they are compelled to work at the NGOs, not for social services. This is a system to exploit unemployed youth and to hoodwink the masses and to divert them from path of revolution. Though these workers had been working there since 20 to 24 years, they were thrown out illegally. The precious part of their life is lost. Because of unemployment and poverty youths are taking jobs with very low wages. NGOs are utilizing this situation. There is no law against this exploitation. Against this NGO workers of this RSSO organized through TUCI and started fighting against this exploitative system. They organized demonstrations, press conferences and postering, leafleting with Charters on nine demands including implement Labour Laws for NGO's workers and to black list this type of NGOs. To take this movement forward a state level NGO workers union is going to be formed by exploited workers with the help of TUCI.

Anti-Price Rise Protest by TUCI

TUCI Central Committee has given call to observe All India Protest Day against price rise on 5th Feb with following slogans: Increase wages, decrease prices; Abolish speculative market in commodities; Uniform wage pattern in public and private employment; Increase and implement Minimum Wages for all; Send hoarders to jail; Not suicide, but forcible storming of godowns is the answer. Responding to this call TUCI Odisha state committee started campaigning and propaganda with these slogans through various means. On 5th February a protest meeting was organised at Inquilab Bhawan at Bhubaneswar which was presided by TUCI Odisha state committee president comrade Jayadev Nayak. Leaders of "Odisha Nirman O Dadan Shramik Union", "Domestic Women Workers Union" "State AIE-EV Mahasangha", "Ruchika Social Service Organisation Employees Union" and "Basti Surakshya Mancha" participated in this protest meeting.

RYFI Started Movement on Healthcare Issues

In capital city Bhubaneswar also Doctors are not coming to government hospitals in time. Their duty is about

**Marxwadi-
Leninwadi**

Organ of Karnataka
State Committee

"Marxwadi-Leninwadi"
Kannada Monthly
No. - 21,
1st Main, 2nd Cross
Hanumanathpuram
Shrirampuram
Banglore - 560021

6 hours in a hospital, but they are coming late in the morning time and going back soon. In the evening they are not coming at all. In IRC Village hospital and in many other hospitals same thing is happening. After complaining also situation has not changed. Government hospitals have become only advertisement section. More than 80 percent people of Odisha are depending on government hospitals. There are other numerous problems also. It is written in all prescriptions that many medicines are available free of cost in the hospitals, but very few people are getting any medicines. Even the doctors are not believing on those medicines and often say that their quality test is needed. With a Charters of Demands regarding this public health system a memorandum was prepared and more than two thousand signatures were collected through campaign. On 19th March a 5 members delegate from RYFI led by com Raghunath, Com Harihar, com. Sureswar, com Papu met with Chief medical officer of the Capital Hospital and discussed the problems. The CMO committed to intervene in the matter and to immediately solve the problems. The RYFI is continuing campaign on these issues and warned that if with in one month these problems are not solved they will gherao the CMO organizing thousands of youths.

AIRWO Odisha State Committee formed

On 25th February a meeting of women activists of Odisha held at Bhubaneswar. It discussed thoroughly about the Chennai All India Women's Activists meeting and decided to form All India Revolutionary Women's Organisation (AIRWO) at state level. A 14 member state organising committee is formed with comrades Jyotshna Mohanty as Advisor, Pramila as president, Puspanjali Dalei and Munmun Singh as vice-president, Indumati as Secretary, Smitanjali Nayak as Joint secretary and Ashamani Sahoo as Treasurer.

Joint Convention Against State Repression

On 10th Feb at Lohiya Academy Hall a joint convention against state repression on mass movements and mass organisations was held. It was organized by various mass organisations and peoples movements of Odisha. Basti Surakshya Mancha, RYFI and Jeevan Jeevika Surakshya Samiti actively participated in it. Kalinganagar movement, Posco Pratirodh Sangram Samiti, Vedanta Virodhi movement and other people's movements also participated in the convention. It adopted many resolutions including a resolution to observe 10th March as all Odisha protest day against state repression. ●

Kerala: Martyrs' Week

THE first week of March is regularly commemorated as Martyrs' week by CPI(ML) State Committee. Comrades, Rajan, Vijayan and Balakrishnan were martyred during Emergency when under the then Home Minister

Karunakaran Kerala was transformed into a police camp. A reign of terror was unleashed against the CPI(ML) activists who challenged the fascist dictatorship of Indira Gandhi in the State. In the repression that followed, Comrades Rajan, Vijayan and Balakrishnan were martyred.

On March 2, 2010, the public meeting in commemoration of Com Rajan was inaugurated by Com KN Ramachandran General Secretary, CPI(ML) at Perambra in Kozhikode district. In his speech Com KNR appealed to the comrades to uphold and carry forward the revolutionary ideals of com. Rajan at this historical juncture in which the CPI(ML) has put forward a path of revolution according to the concrete neocolonial conditions prevailing today both at the international and national level. The public meeting at Varkala in Thiruvananthapuram district in commemoration of Com Varkala Vijayan was inaugurated by Com T.C. Subrahmanyam. It was presided over by Com RK Nair, district secretary of CPI(ML).

Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Com Remashan

On March 13, the Martyrdom of Com Rameshan was observed by Cultural Forum with a public meeting at Stadium Corner, Kannur. Com Remashan who was an activist of People's Cultural Forum was martyred by speculative mafia in Kannur on March 14, 1981 while he was fighting against the underworld goons who were engaged in money-spinning gambling with the connivance of the then CPI(M) led Nayanar government in Kerala. The meeting presided over by Com Vinodkumar Ramantholi was inaugurated by Com. P.J. James. Noted progressive poet, Kureepuzha Sreekumar, V. Sunilkumar, and Sunny Ambatt, CPI(ML) Kannur district Secretary spoke. ●

CG: Anti-Imperialist Day

UNDER the leadership of RYFI, Chhattisgarh state committee besides Raipur at Rajim, Bilaspur and Jagadalpur also Shahid Bhagat Singh Day on 23rd March was observed as Anti-Imperialist Day. Com. Deepa, vice president of RYFI led the program at Rajim which participated by veteran communist and trade union leaders like comrades Mridul Sengupta and Parasnath Sahu. At Bilaspur, com. Dipak Ghosle, secretary, RYFI state committee led the program at Khudiadih in which a large number of youth took part. At Jagadalpur com. Chandrashekhar Dhruv, district secretary, CPI(ML), inaugurated the public meeting.

International Women's Day was observed at Bhilai and Jagadalpur. At Jagadalpur, Bastar district, more than 50 women took part in the International Women's Day program in which comrades Santoshi, Malati Nag and Alidas spoke on against mounting atrocities on women. At all places in different states where the Day was observed by AIRWO, solidarity was extended to the ten year old valiant struggle of Ms. Irom Sharmila for withdrawal of AFSPA in Manipur. ●

P**OLITICAL** parties and organizations from Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania commemorate and celebrate the unity and solidarity that brought us together in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and from this libertarian city we would like to express our revolutionary rebelliousness. We are glad of and committed to the proud presence of the forces of change in a special moment of history. Likewise, we are proud to reaffirm our conviction to definitively sow, grow and win Socialism of the 21st century.

In this regard, we want to sign the Commitment of Caracas as a revolutionary guide for the challenges ahead of us. We have gathered with the aim of unifying criteria and giving concrete answers that allow us to defend our sovereignty, our social victories, and the freedom of our peoples in the face of the generalized crisis of the world capitalist system and the new threats spreading over our region and the whole world with the establishment and strengthening of military bases in the sister republics of Colombia, Panama, Aruba, Curacao, the Dutch Antilles, as well as the aggression against Ecuadorian territory, and the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan.

We consider that the world capitalist system is going through one of its most severe crises, which has shaken its very foundations and brought with it consequences that jeopardize the survival of humanity. Likewise, capitalism and the logic of capital, destroys the environment and biodiversity, bringing with it consequences of climate change, global warming and the destruction of life.

One of the epicentres of the capitalist crisis is in the economic domain; this highlights the limitations of unbridled free markets ruled by private monopolies. In this situation, some governments have been asked to intervene to prevent the collapse of

Caracas Commitment

[Declaration from World Meeting of Left Parties on November 19-21, 2010 at Caracas, Venezuela on the occasion of the conference of United Socialist Party of Venezuela]

vital economic sectors, for instance, through the implementation of bailouts to bank institutions that amount to hundreds of billions of dollars. Said governments have been asked to stimulate their economies by increasing public expenditure in order to mitigate the recession and the private sector decline, which evidences the end of the supposedly irrefutable “truth” of neo-liberalism that of non-intervention of the State in economic affairs.

In this regard, it is very timely to promote an in-depth discussion on the economic crisis, the role of the State and the construction of a new financial architecture.

In summary, the capitalist crisis cannot be reduced simply to a financial crisis; it is a structural crisis of capital which combines the economic crisis, with an ecological crisis, a food crisis, and an energy crisis, which together represents a mortal threat to humanity and mother earth. Faced with this crisis, left-wing movements and parties see the defence of nature and the construction of an ecologically sustainable society as a fundamental axis of our struggle for a better world.

In recent years, progressive and left-wing movements of the Latin American region have accumulated forces, and stimulated transformations, throwing up leaders that today hold important government spaces. This has represented an important blow to the empire because the peoples have rebelled against the domination that has been imposed on them, and have left behind their fear to express their values and principles, showing the empire that we will not allow any more interference in our internal affairs, and that we are willing to defend our sovereignty.

This meeting is held at a historic time, characterized by a new imperialistic offensive against the peoples and governments of the region and of the world, a pretension supported by the oligarchies and ultraconservative right-wing, with the objective of recovering spaces lost as a consequence of the advancement of revolutionary process of liberation developing in Latin America. These are expressed through the creation of regional organizations such as ALBA, UNASUR, PETROCARIBE, Banco del Sur, the Sao Paulo Forum, COPPPAL, among others; where the main principles inspiring these processes are those of solidarity, complementarity, social priority over economic advantage, respect for self-determination of the peoples in open opposition to the policies of imperial domination. For these reasons, the right-wing forces in partnership with the empire have launched an offensive to combat the advance and development of the peoples’ struggles, especially those against the overexploitation of human beings, racist discrimination, cultural oppression, in defence of natural resources, of the land and territory from the perspective of the left and progressive movements and of world transformation.

We reflect on the fact that these events have led the U.S administration to set strategies to undermine, torpedo and destabilize the advancement of these

processes of change and recuperation of sovereignty. To this end, the US has implemented policies expressed through an ideological and media offensive that aim to discredit the revolutionary and progressive governments of the region, labelling them as totalitarian governments, violators of human rights, with links to drug-trafficking operations, and terrorism; and also questioning the legitimacy of their origin. This is the reason for the relentless fury with which all the empire's means of propaganda and its agents inside our own countries continuously attack the experiences in Venezuela, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Paraguay, as with its maintenance of the blockade against revolutionary and independent Cuba.

Part of the strategy activated by the U.S. Empire is evidenced by the coup in Honduras, as well as in other destabilizing initiatives in Central America, attempting to impose the oligarchic interests that have already left hundreds of victims, while a disgusting wave of cynicism tries to cover up the dictatorship imposed by the U.S. administration with a false veil of democracy. Along with this, it is developing a military offensive with the idea of maintaining political and military hegemony in the region, for which it is promoting new geopolitical allies, generating destabilization and disturbing peace in the region and globally through military intimidation, with the help of its allies in the internal oligarchies, who are shown to be complicit in the actions taken by the empire, giving away their sovereignty, and opening spaces for the empire's actions.

We consider that this new offensive is specifically expressed through two important events that took place this year in the continent: The coup in Honduras, and the installation of military bases in Colombia and Panama, as well as the strengthening of the already existing ones in our region. The coup in Honduras is nothing but a display of hypocrisy by the empire, a way to intimidate the rest of the governments in the region. It is a test-laboratory that aims to set a precedent that can be applied as a new coup model and a way to encourage the right to plot against the transformational and independent processes.

We denounce the military agreement between the Colombian government and the United States administration strengthens the U.S.'s military strategy, whose contents are expressed in the so-called "White Book". This confirms that the development of the agreement will guarantee a projection of continental and intercontinental military power, the strengthening of transportation capability and air mobility to guarantee the improvement of its action capability, in order to provide the right conditions to have access to energy sources. It also consolidates its political partnership with the regional oligarchy for the control of Colombian territory and its projection in the Andes and in the rest of South America. All this scaffolding and consolidation of military architecture entails a serious threat for peace in the region and the world.

The installation of military bases in the region and their interrelation with the different bases spread throughout the world is not only confined to the military sphere, but rather forms part of the establishment of a general policy of domination and expansion directed by the U.S. These bases constitute strategic points to dominate all the countries in Central and Latin America and the rest of the world.

The treaty for the installation of military bases in Colombia is preceded by Plan Colombia, which was already an example of U.S. interference in the affairs of Colombia and the region using the fight against drug trafficking and terrorism as an excuse. However, it has been shown that drug trafficking levels have increased in Colombia; therefore, the plan is no longer justified given that no favourable results have been obtained since its implementation, that would justify a new treaty with the U.S.

Today, the global strategy headed by the U.S. concerning drug trafficking is a complete failure. Its results are summarised by a rapid processes of accumulation of illegal capital, increased consumption of drugs and exacerbation of criminality, whose victims are the peoples of Latin America, especially the Colombian people. This strategy should be revisited and modified, and should be oriented towards a different logic that focuses on drug consumption as a public health issue. In Colombia, drug trafficking has assumed the form of para-militarism, and turned into a political project the scope of which and persons responsible should be investigated so that the truth is known, so that justice prevails and the terror of the civilian population ceases.

We, the peoples of the world, declare that we will not give up the spaces we have managed to conquer after years of struggle and resistance; and we commit ourselves to regain those which have been taken from us. Therefore, we need to defend the processes of change and the unfolding revolutions since they are based on sovereign decisions made by the peoples.

AGREEMENTS

1. MOBILIZATION AND CONDEMNATION OF U.S. MILITARY BASES

1.1. To organize global protests against the U.S. military bases from December 12th to 17th, 2009. Various leftwing parties and social movements will promote forums, concerts, protest marches and any other creative activity within the context of this event.

1.2. To establish a global mobilization front for the political denouncement of the U.S. military bases. This group will be made up by social leaders, left-wing parties, lawmakers, artists, among others, who will visit different countries with the aim of raising awareness in forums, press conferences and news and above

all in gatherings with each country's peoples.

1.3. To organize students, young people, workers and women in order to establish a common agenda of vigilance and to denounce against the military bases throughout the world.

1.4. To organize a global legal forum to challenge the installation of the U.S. military bases. This forum is conceived as a space for the condemnation of illegalities committed against the sovereignty and self-determination of the peoples and the imposition of a hegemonic imperialist model.

1.5. To organise a global trial against para-militarism in Colombia bringing testimonies and evidence to international bodies of justice.

1.6. To promote a global trial against George Bush for crimes against humanity, as the person principally responsible for the genocide against the peoples of Iraq and Afghanistan.

1.7. To promote a campaign for the creation of constitutional and legal provisions in all of our countries against the installation of military bases and deployment of nuclear weapons of mass destruction.

1.8. To promote, from the different social organizations and movements of the countries present in this meeting, a political solution for the Colombian conflict.

1.9. To organise solidarity with the Colombian people against the imperial aggression that the military bases entail in Colombian territory.

2. INSTALLATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF A PLATFORM OF JOINT ACTION BY LEFT-WING PARTIES OF THE WORLD

2.1. To establish a space of articulation of progressive and left-wing organizations and parties that allows for coordinating policies against the aggression towards the peoples, the condemnation of the aggressions against governments

elected democratically, the installation of military bases, the violation of sovereignty and against xenophobia, the defence of immigrants' rights, peace, and the environment, and peasant, labour, indigenous and afro-descendent movements.

2.2. To set up a Temporary Executive Secretariat (TES) that allows for the coordination of a common working agenda, policy making, and follow-up on the agreements reached within the framework of this international encounter. Said Secretariat undertakes to inform about relevant events in the world, and to define specific action plans: statements, declarations, condemnations, mobilizations, observations and other issues that may be decided.

2.3. To set up an agenda of permanent ideological debate on the fundamental aspects of the process of construction of socialism.

2.4. To prepare common working agendas with participation from Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania.

2.5. To organize solidarity of the people's of the world with the Bolivarian revolution and President Hugo Chávez, in response to the constant imperial attacks.

2.6. To commemorate the centenary of Clara Zetkin's proposal to celebrate March 8th as the International Day of Women. The parties undertake to celebrate this day insofar as possible.

2.7. To summon a meeting to be held in Caracas in April 2010 in commemoration of the bicentenary of our Latin American and Caribbean independences.

3. ORGANIZATION OF A WORLD MOVEMENT OF MILITANTS FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE

3.1. To promote the establishment of peace bases, by peace supporters, who will coordinate actions and denouncements against interventionism and war sponsored by imperialism through activities such as: forums, cultural events, and debates to promote the ethical behaviour of anti-violence, full participation in social life, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, acknowledgement of the cultural identities of our peoples and strengthening the framework of integration. This space seeks to raise awareness among all citizens in rejection of all forms of domination, internal or external intervention, and to reinforce the culture of peace. To struggle relentlessly for a world with no nuclear weapons, no weapons of mass destruction, no military bases, no foreign interference, and no economic blockades, as our peoples need peace and are absolutely entitled to attain development. Promote the American continent as a territory of peace, home to the construction of a free and sovereign world.

The Marxist-Leninist

January 2010, Issue No 4

- 1. Extracts from the Report by Stalin to the 18th Congress of the CPSU(B)**
- 2. From the Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR - Stalin**
- 3. From A Critique of Soviet Economy**
- 4. The Communist International and the Chinese Communist Party**

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3.2. To organize a Peace Parliament as a political space to exchange common endeavours among the world's progressive and left-wing parliamentarians, and to know the historical, economic, legal, political and environmental aspects key for the defence of peace. Hereby we recommend holding the first meeting in February 2010.

4. ARTILLERY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION TO EMANCIPATE REVOLUTIONARY CONSCIOUSNESS

4.1. To discuss a public communication policy at an inter-regional level that aims to improve the media battle, and to convey the values of socialism among the peoples.

4.2. To promote the creation and consolidation of alternative and community communication media to break the media siege, promote an International Alternative Left-wing Media Coordination Office that creates links to provide for improved information exchange among our countries, in which Telesur and Radiosur can be spearheads for this action.

4.3. To create a website of all of the progressive and left-wing parties and movements in the world as a means to ensure permanent exchange and the development of an emancipating and alternative communication.

4.4. To promote a movement of artists, writers and filmmakers to promote and develop festivals of small, short and full-length films that reflects the advancement and the struggle of peoples in revolution.

4.5. To hold a meeting or international forum of alternative left-wing media.

5. MOBILIZE ALL POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS IN UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF HONDURAS

5.1. To promote an international trial against the coup plotters in Honduras before the International Criminal Court for the abuses and crimes committed.

5.2. Refuse to recognize the illegal electoral process they aim to carry out in Honduras.

5.3. To carry out a world vigil on Election Day in Honduras in order to protest against the intention to legitimize the coup, coordinated by the permanent committee that emerges from this encounter.

5.4. To coordinate the actions of left-wing parties worldwide to curb the imperialist pretensions of using the coup in Honduras as a strategy against the Latin American and Caribbean progressive processes and governments.

5.5. To unite with the people of Honduras through a global solidarity movement for people's resistance and for the pursuit of democratic and participatory paths that allow for the establishment of progressive governments committed to common welfare and social justice.

5.6. To undertake actions geared towards denouncing before multilateral bodies, and within the framework of international law, the abduction of José Manuel Zelaya, legitimate President of Honduras, that facilitated the rupture of constitutional order in Honduras. It is necessary to determine responsibility among those who participated directly in this crime, and even among those who allowed his aircraft to go in and out Costa Rica without trying to detain the kidnappers of the Honduran president.

6. SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD

6.1. The Left-wing Parties of the International Meeting of Caracas agree to demand the immediate liberation of the five Cuban heroes unfairly imprisoned in

American jails. They are authentic anti-terrorist fighters that caused no harm to U.S. national security, whose work was oriented towards preventing the terrorist attacks prepared by the terrorist counterrevolution against Cuba. The Five Heroes were subject to a biased judicial process, condemned by broad sectors of humanity, and stigmatized by a conspiracy of silence by the mainstream media. Given the impossibility of winning justice via judicial means, we call upon all political left-wing parties of the world to increase actions for their immediate liberation. We call on President Obama to utilize his executive power and set these Five Heroes of Humanity free.

6.2. The International Meeting of Left-wing Parties resolutely demands the immediate and unconditional cessation of the criminal U.S. blockade that harmed the Cuban people so badly over the last fifty years. The blockade should come to an end right now in order to fulfil the will of the 187 countries that recently declared themselves against this act of genocide during the UN General Assembly.

6.3. To unite with the people of Haiti in the struggle for the return of President Jean Bertrand Aristide to his country.

6.4. We propose to study the possibility to grant a residence in Venezuela to Jean Bertrand Aristide, who was kidnapped and overthrown as Haiti's president by U.S. imperialism.

6.5. We express the need to declare a permanent alert aimed at preventing any type of breach of the constitutional order that may hinder the process of democratic change underway in Paraguay.

6.6. We denounce the neoliberal privatizing advance in Mexico expressly in the case of the Electric Energy state-owned company, a heritage of the people, which aims through the massive firing of 45 000

workers to intimidate the union force, “Luz y Fuerza”, which constitutes another offensive of the Empire in Central and North America.

6.7. To declare our solidarity with the peoples of the world that have suffered and are still suffering imperial aggressions, especially, the 50 year-long genocidal blockade against Cuba; the threat against the people of Paraguay; the slaughter of the Palestinian people; the illegal occupation of part of the territory of the Republic of Western Sahara and the invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan which today is expanding into Pakistan; the illegal sanctions imposed against Zimbabwe and the constant threat against Iran, among others.

SPECIAL DECISION

The international encounter of Left-wing Political parties held in Caracas on November 19, 20 and 21, 2009, received the proposal made by Commander Hugo Chavez Frias to convoke the V Socialist International as a space for socialist-oriented parties, movements and currents in which we can harmonize a common strategy for the struggle against imperialism, the overthrow of capitalism by socialism and solidarity based economic integration of a new type. We assessed that proposition in terms of its historical dimension which calls for a new spirit of internationalism and agreed, for the purpose of achieving it in the short term, to create a WORKING GROUP comprised of those socialist parties, currents and social movements who endorse the initiative, to prepare an agenda which defines the objectives, contents and mechanisms of this global revolutionary body. We call for an initial constitutive event for April 2010 in the City of Caracas. Furthermore, those parties, socialist currents and social movements who have not expressed themselves on this matter can subject this proposal to the examination of their legitimate directive bodies. ●

Caracas, November 21st, 2009

Response to Caracas Commitment

[The response to the Caracas Commitment sent by the International Department to the Central Committee of CPI(ML) to the United Socialist Party of Venezuela]

THE call of comrade Hugo Chavez for a *Fifth International* at the international meeting of left parties from 19-21 November, 2009 and the *Caracas Commitment* issued on 21st November are very important steps in the present international situation. Our Party, Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) support them.

At present the world capitalist system is confronting one of its most severe crises. In spite of bailing out the MNCs, the international banks, the corporate houses responsible for this crisis spending trillions of dollars, it has not receded. On the contrary, it is going to persist and surface in worse forms in coming days. It has led to heinous and pernicious ways of transforming the burden of this crisis to the working class in the imperialist countries and to the shoulders of the workers and oppressed peoples in the countries under neo-colonial forms of plunder. Besides, as pointed out in the *Caracas Commitment*, more US military bases are built, the aggression in Afghanistan is intensified and expanded to neighbouring areas, interference, bullying and aggression in Palestine, Iraq and Latin American countries are intensified, sharpening all the major contradictions at the world level to unprecedented levels.

What the proletariat and oppressed peoples are facing today is the continuation and intensification of the neo-colonisation process planned and executed by the imperialist camp led by U.S. imperialism from 1941 Atlantic Charter followed by 1944 Brettonwoods Agreement launching IMF and the World Bank, replacing colonisation utilising territorial domination with the new forms of plunder through imperialist capital and market system as its main tools. In the 1910s the *Second International* had faced split and collapsed when the reformist sections based on an erroneous evaluation of the transformation of capitalism to its monopoly stage, imperialism, had collaborated with it during First World War. In the 1940s when the US-led imperialist camp changed its tactics, initiated ‘de-colonisation’ and launched neo-colonisation, the *Third International* gave greater importance to nationalism and “defense of the fatherland” rather than internationalism, made compromises with the imperialist camp and dissolved the international. These weaknesses were also part of the weaknesses in building socialism as a genuine alternative to imperialism and developing proletarian democracy in Soviet Union on the one hand, and in developing the *Third International* as an international platform of the Communist Parties engaged in waging revolution in different countries according to the concrete conditions there. These weaknesses helped the post-Stalin leadership to go ahead with capitalist restoration in Soviet Union which later led to its disintegration.

That the neo-colonial phase of imperialism under capital-market hegemony is more pernicious and barbarous was not recognised. As a result, pursuing the line of peaceful co-existence with imperialism and peaceful transition to socialism, the Soviet Party and all those Communist Parties following its line degenerated to right opportunist path. Later the CPC, failing to develop its criticism of the Soviet revisionist line, the 1963 *Proposal Concerning the General Line of International Communist Movement* and the understanding on neo-colonialism

it had put forward, to developing the understanding on imperialism in its neo-colonial phase, and all those Marxist-Leninist parties mechanically pursuing the 'Chinese Path' degenerated to 'left' adventurist line. It led to capitalist restoration in China, and disintegration and weakening of most of these Marxist-Leninist Parties. As a result, the question of re-organising the *Third International* or launching a new International to unite the proletariat and oppressed peoples of the world against imperialist system was never taken up with the urgency it called for. Because of the failure of the communist movement to make a concrete analysis of the situation in the world after the Second World War, the situation of neo-colonialism, the door was opened to many deviations and theoretical absurdities like market socialism, *Perestroika* and *Glasnost*, Post-Marxism, Gonzalo thought and Prachanda path. None of these has been able to provide any direction for the movement of the peoples of the world against imperialism.

What about the question of the *Fourth International*? Its basic mistake was that it was built based on an erroneous, mechanical evaluation of the situation in both the imperialist countries and in the countries under imperialist domination alike. Trotsky's position was either the socialist revolution must be global or no revolution at all. So he rejected Lenin's call to develop socialism in Soviet Union as a base area of world revolution, while advancing revolutions in other countries. His criticism was not directed against the mistakes committed in building socialism in Soviet Union, but against the very construction of socialism itself there. It amounted to abandoning Soviet Union to capitalist development till the success of the world revolution. As the *Fourth International* could not conceive of a revolution within any national boundary, Trotskyists could not develop any revolutionary practice anywhere. Practical tasks of revolutionary struggle were rejected. They degenerated to excessive, dogmatic debates and to sectarianism. Instead of combating the forces of reaction they concentrated their attacks on any emerging revolutionary practice. Soon they got divided into numerous sections and are only indulging in endless debates today. So the revolutionary forces have very little to learn from them.

It is in this context after evaluating present world situation, the All India Special Conference of our Party held in November 2009 had called for: ***"Workers of All Countries, Unite; Workers of the World, Unite With the Oppressed Peoples and Oppressed Nations; Oppose Imperialism and Reaction in All Countries; Strive for World Peace, National Liberation, People's Democracy and Socialism; Strengthen the Socialist Forces; Bring the Proletarian World Revolution Step by Step to Complete Victory; And Establish a New World Without Imperialism, Without Capitalism and Without the Exploitation of Man by Man !"***, in line with the 1963 *Proposal* of the CPC. Based on this stand, upholding proletarian internationalism, along with like-minded parties we are taking initiative to organise an International Co-ordination of Marxist-Leninist Parties. It is at this time the call for the *Fifth International* has come from comrade Hugo Chavez. That is why we have welcomed it. At the very same time, when the Caracas meeting was taking place, the social democratic parties in India, the CPI and CPI(M), had organised the 11th international conference of the social democratic parties at Delhi. All these social democratic parties, irrespective of their jargons, are implementing the imperialist globalisation-neo liberal policies wherever they share political power with capitalist, petti-bourgeois parties. In practice they uphold that 'There is no alternative to imperialist globalisation'. In spite of their names, flags and jargons, they serve imperialism. They have abandoned, in practice, the struggle for socialism. So they cannot become part of the Proletarian International.

On the other hand, there are those forces indulging in sectarian, adventurist, anarchic actions in the name of revolution, under various banners. Contrary to

what the revolutionary socialist forces are doing in Latin America and elsewhere, they refuse to mobilise the masses for revolution. They do not mobilise and educate the working class and establish its leadership in the revolution. They one-sidedly preach or practice armed struggle as the only form of struggle and depend entirely on squad actions. Instead of upholding that 'it is the people who make history', they believe that 'heroes make history'. They do not try to analyse what happened to the erstwhile socialist countries. So it is necessary to wage an ideological struggle against this erroneous line to help them to recognise their mistakes. Theoretical-political struggles should be waged to win over them to the side of proletarian revolution, shedding sectarian positions. Without such a process, including them with their present approach shall harm the launching of the International.

Our Party views the emergence of the anti-imperialist, popular governments in Venezuela, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Ecuador, etc. in Latin America as a positive development at international level. We also support the anti-imperialist, especially anti-US stand of the Cuban people and government. This mighty wave of anti-imperialist movements can be strengthened and consolidated, the conspiracies against it by the US-led forces of reaction can be defeated, these struggles can be developed at international level and 21st century can be made a century of socialism liberating the humanity from all forms of exploitation and oppression and from the ecological, food and energy crises only by strengthening the unity of the anti-imperialist forces fighting for people's democracy and socialism at global level. We support the *Caracas Commitment's* words: "We need to defend the processes of change and the unfolding revolutions."

Our Party proposes that when the *Working Group* is formed and the

initial constitutive event is worked out the positive contributions as well as the weaknesses of the First, Second and Third Internationals and the negative aspects of the Fourth International should be evaluated and lessons taken. Similarly, the experience of building socialism in Soviet Union, China and other former socialist countries may be evaluated to help building of socialism as a genuine alternative to the imperialist system. In the context of the dictatorship of the proletariat degenerating to bureaucratic dictatorships in these countries, the question of developing proletarian democracy beyond bourgeois democracy linking it with the building of a people oriented economic base, fundamentally different from the imperialist model of development path, also calls for serious discussion. It will lead towards developing a socialist path of development and people's political power in the line of the analysis of Paris Commune and the Soviets by Marx, Engels and Lenin.

Today, imperialism, especially US imperialism is launching vicious attacks on the working class and oppressed people's of the world utilising not only the hegemony of imperialist capital and market system, but also religion, racism, culture, post-modernist concepts, alien thoughts, media, etc. besides armed aggressions, sabotages, bullying, imposition of puppet rules as in Iraq, Afghanistan, Haiti, etc. Besides, concepts like 'There are many alternatives' are put forward and the seizure of political power under the leadership of the proletariat is diluted in various forms through advocacy of reforming the

system from within by numerous agencies and the so-called social movements. An uncompromising struggle is needed to expose and defeat all these alien, reactionary tendencies which serve imperialism and its lackeys. While the broadest possible unity is needed in the struggle to overthrow the imperialist system, this struggle can become successful only if the forces united within the International are genuinely anti-imperialist proletarian forces dedicated to make revolution and to make the 21st century the century of revolutionary socialism.

Our Party, CPI (ML), extends full support to the initiative taken by the United Socialist Party of Venezuela and other left parties in the launching of the Fifth International. We like to participate in the discussions towards the constitutive meeting in April 2010 and to become part of this process to build a new International. Please provide us the contact address and full details about this process, so that we can fruitfully continue our contacts. ●

Commonwealth Games at What Cost?

EVEN six decades after the transfer of power to the compradors facilitating the switch over from colonial to neo-colonial plunder, India continues as a member of the *British Commonwealth*, reminding us our colonial past and the need to submit to the imperialist wishes. British Crown is respected as titular head in all *Commonwealth* engagements as we are going to see during coming *Commonwealth Games* at Delhi. Even after a pitiable performance even in last *Olympics*, Indian rulers are trying to show off India's wealth and splendour during the *Games* at the common people's expense. Fabulous amounts are spent on the infrastructural and other facilities for the *Games* when tens of thousands of villages and city slums are without drinking water and prices of essential commodities are soaring pauperising the masses. The picture will be clear if one goes through the huge sums spent by the Delhi state government for it apart from the fabulous amounts spent by various central agencies on these *Games*.

According to Delhi state budget the state government has spent Rs. 15,000 crores on Games related projects so far. Equal or more amount will be required for completing already taken up projects and remaining projects. Apart from taxing the people all over the country by the central government for central related projects, the state government has announced to increase the Value Added Tax on 32 items including CNG, diesel, tea and household plastic goods besides doing away with the Rs. 40 per cylinder subsidy on cooking gas to pay for development activities being undertaken for the international sporting event. Most of the money proposed to be raised from the "growth Budget" would be spent on development of infrastructure and transport for the Games. As an immediate fall-out of the Delhi Budget, the price of diesel in the Capital would go up by Rs. 2.37 per litre and that of CNG by Rs. 1.09 per kg. Incidentally, only two days ago Indraprastha Gas Limited had announced an increase of 50 paise per kg in the price of CNG. Cooking gas cylinder would now cost Rs. 322.80 in Delhi.

Altogether it is going to be Rs. One lakh crore project much of which will go to the pockets of the real estate builders, contractors, bureaucrats and the ruling political elite. As far as the sports and games in the country and people's involvement in it is concerned, much of these shall remain in the same pitiable condition even after the *Games*, as past experience teaches. The *Commonwealth Games* is going to be another extravaganza like the IPL Cricket to make some fabulously rich while the vast masses subjected to more poverty and hunger. ●

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Scrap the 2005 Indo-US Nuclear Deal and the Nuclear Liability Bill

THE Chernobyl (Ukraine) nuclear accident, when the reactor core melted down and the plant exploded, killed 65,000 people from radiation induced cancers and caused incalculable damages to environment. Its damage is estimated as \$ 250 billion. In Germany the damage liability for such an accident is estimated as \$ 2400 to 6000 billion. Because of these serious threats US, once the world's leading nuclear power nation, has not ordered a single new reactor since 1973. Internationally nuclear power contribution to global electricity generation is stagnant or falling. At the same time safe, non-polluting solar and wind energy production is growing annually at 20%. In India itself besides numerous nuclear leak cases which are suppressed, even after spending huge amounts the share of nuclear power to total power production is still hardly 5%.

Nuclear power is inherently hazardous, because it involves high-pressure, high-temperature processes and high energy-intensity. A nuclear reactor is a highly complex system, whose sub-systems are tightly coupled. A mishap in one sub-system gets instantly transmitted to others, leading to a runaway reaction. Nuclear power poses the radiation danger at every step. Such exposure take place routinely even without accidents. The costs of the damage, including treatment, are hard to estimate. Nuclear power generation leaves behind tonnes of radioactive waste which remain hazardous for thousands of years. Science hasn't found a safe way of storing wastes, leave alone disposing them of. Imagine a leak from a waste repository 100 years after a nuclear power plant (whose waste it stores) has run out of its economic life of 25-40 years. Who would be liable? Under the Bill, not even the plant's operator. The public must pick up the bill.

Still the first *avatar* of UPA went for an Indo-US Nuclear Deal in 2005 in spite of strong opposition even from a large section of nuclear scientists. The Manmohan government used all types of underhand tactics to smuggle the deal fooling the parliament and the people. Now the second *avatar* of UPA wants to get the *Nuclear Liability Bill* restricting the liability of provider of a plant to a petty Rs. 500 crores. Why should a limit be placed at all on the liability for a potentially catastrophic mishap in an industry known to be highly hazardous, one of whose distinguishing features is accident-proneness? The question will discomfit the industry. But it remains pertinent. Nuclear power generation is the only form of energy production which can lead to a catastrophe containing the body's basic genetic material. Radiation is especially insidious because of its invisibility and intangibility. The radioactivity is liable to be deposited over hundreds of thousands of square kilometres and make them uninhabitable.

"To cap the liability for such large-scale damage is extremely dangerous. Doing so violates two vital safety tenets: the Precautionary Principle and the Polluter Pays Principle. The first says no activity with inadequately understood hazards should be undertaken. Under the second, those causing damage must fully compensate the public. These cardinal principles and the absolute liability notion have been upheld by the Supreme Court in many judgments as deriving from Articles 21 (right to life), 47 (responsibility to improve public health) and 48A (improving the environment and safeguarding forests). In the Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum case (1996), the Court held: "Once the activity carried on is hazardous or potentially hazardous, the person carrying on such activity is

liable to make good the loss ...irrespective [of] whether he took reasonable care..." "This absolute liability extends to "the cost of restoring the environmental degradation..." The nuclear liability Bill violates these basic principles." (Prafful Bidwai, *Mainstream*)

Even a panel appointed by Kerala government to go into damages created by Coca Cola plant in Plachimada village in Palakkad district has asked the plant to pay Rs. 216 crores for the local pollution. Even after Rajiv Gandhi government bailing out the MNC, the Union Carbide, from paying damage for *Bhopal massacre*, the government has so far spend Rs. 2500 crores, which has not touched the fringe of the damage control in this accident involving a chemical plant. So it is not difficult to see that fixing the nuclear liability to a provider at Rs. 500 crores is like a pea-nut to save the US providers who are queuing up to export their outdated technology and nuclear plants to Jaitapur (Konkan, Maharashtra) like places at great risk to the people and environment.

The Bill is yet another caputulation to US masters under corporate pressure absolving the state from the responsibility to protect its citizens against hazards. The US administration and MNCs are furiously lobbying to get the bill passed to encourage extraction of major nuclear contracts. The comprador bureaucrats and the political elites of UPA are working hard to get it through. They want to prevent any discussion about Chernobyl and Three Mile Island catastrophe so that the 10,000 MW nuclear project at Jaitapur can be contracted as early as possible. These are nothing but acts of treason putting the whole country and the people to incalculable danger. A mighty people's movement is required at all India level like the one locally developing around Jaitapur to get the Nuclear Liability Bill thrown out along with the 2005 Indo-US Nuclear Deal. ●

THE recent restraint on commercial release of Bt brinjal despite approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee is based on many factors including cautionary advice of European scientists about inadequate bio-safety assessment by seed producer company Mahyco and possible threats to indigenous brinjal biodiversity. Bt brinjal is a genetically engineered brinjal containing the Bt toxin gene from the soil bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* (therefore, Bt).

For most commercially released GM crops the protocols still date from as far back as the mid-1990s, overlooking the many advances in GE technology since then. For instance, Mahyco uses a slightly modified technique enunciated in 1995. Over the last two decades, however, plant transformation technology has moved ahead rapidly as scientists around the world have endeavoured to make the technology bio-safe.

Many such advances have been made in plant transformation technology to make it more efficient, relevant and bio-safe and this is a continuing effort around the world, including India. However, it is disconcerting to note that in India the GM crops released or waiting to be released have been produced through an underdeveloped technology dating from the mid-1990s according to many scientists.

Commercial release of GM crops tends to take a short-run view and to attract farmers, companies use very high yielding hybrid lines as acceptors. These very high yielding hybrids and their Bt counterparts require much higher inputs of fertilizers and irrigation than even the Green Revolution hybrids.

In view of the above considerations, it would be wiser to take precautionary measures and not rush into commercialisation of a technology that is currently still being perfected by our scientists. One should wait till

Do We Want Bt Brinjal and GM Foods Without Further Studies?

truly bio-safe GM crops, especially bio-safe food crops have been produced using advances in plant transformation technology. But Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture, and Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of Science and Technology (which houses the Department of Bio-technology, or DBT) rushed to take a pro-Bt brinjal and pro-GM crops policy stance. In this they cited erroneous claims about GE (genetically engineered) crops, unsupported by science.

The regulation and risk assessment of GM crops must address two questions. First, what is the degree of enforcement and commitment to keeping India safe? And second, what is required to regulate this hazardous technology before the environmental release of any GMO [genetically modified organism]? The need for extreme caution arises from the fact that once released into the environment, these organisms cannot be recalled. Yet, we have a most complacent pro-industry process: a safety dossier prepared by Monsanto with no regulatory oversight and no capability in place to conduct independent studies.

It is proved that the rapid adoption of GM cotton by farmers across the country had coincided with the rise of hitherto unknown insect pests, increased pesticide application by farmers and declining cotton productivity over the past three years. It would be a wise decision by the government to undertake rigorous analyses, State by State, of agronomic and economic gains/losses in an independent and transparent process of inquiry, without inputs from Monsanto.

Industrial agriculture is ultimately its own worst enemy, as it causes massive degradation of the very soil that is vital to farming. This kind of agriculture is unsustainable (Gurian Sherman). As for the safety of the Bt gene, again, no such claim is possible. Indeed, it is a dangerous and irresponsible assertion because cotton is essentially an animal feed unlike Bt brinjal. And, the Bt gene has never been approved as safe in any Bt food/feed crop anywhere. To put it politely, truth appears to be a casualty. The GM lobby that includes Monsanto; is assisted by the Indian regulators, the DBT and the GEAC and the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR). It shows how much influence the MNCs have among the so-called reputed scientific establishment of India.

It must be clearly understood that currently no GM crop is engineered to increase yield. The United Nations' International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) is the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) equivalent in agriculture, the definitive road map for agriculture for the next 50 years. Authored by 400 scientists and signed by 60 countries, including India, it took four years to complete. In its published conclusions in 2008, it sees no role for GM crops to feed the world and states that there is no evidence that GM crops increase yield. Instead it recommends applying low-input agro-ecological farming practices, whose use in the developing world has produced dramatic increases in yields and food security.

"The intrinsic yields of corn and soybeans did rise during the twentieth century, but not as a result of GE traits. Rather, they were due to successes in traditional breeding.... Cutting through the rhetoric, overall pesticide use

(herbicides, insecticides and fungicides) has not been reduced through GE. Insect-resistant GE crops have reduced overall insecticide use somewhat, but on balance GE crops have not reduced our dependence on pesticides.... It makes little sense to support genetic engineering at the expense of technologies that have proven to substantially increase yields, especially in developing countries... these include modern, conventional plant breeding methods, sustainable and organic farming and other sophisticated farming practices that do not require farmers to pay significant upfront costs...." (Union of Concerned Scientists, Doug Gurian Sherman.)

A search of the scientific literature on the Bt transgene reveals plenty of evidence of harm, leading to various immunity problems: "There is no scientific basis for claiming that Bt crops are 'proven safe to eat'" (Pusztai). David Schubert of the prestigious Salk Institute says: "There are at least four mechanisms by which the introduction of the Bt toxin into Bt brinjal can cause harm. These include (1) the random insertion of the Bt gene into the plant DNA and the resulting unintended consequences; (2) alterations in crop metabolism by the Bt protein that results in new, equally unintended and potentially toxic products; (3) the direct toxicity of the Bt protein; and (4) an immune response elicited by the Bt protein. There are scientifically documented examples of all four toxic mechanisms for Bt crops."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommended extensive safety testing of Bt crops but there is no required safety testing for GE food crops in the U.S. and, therefore, this was never done (Schubert). In India, there is documented evidence of toxic effects in animals grazing in harvested Bt cotton fields, and human allergies too. The E.C. II Report claims that these have been thoroughly investigated and have no substance. Yet, documents received under the Right to Information Act squarely refute these claims. This is a serious falsification of the truth. No investigation of any depth, leave alone of scientific rigour, has been conducted to ascertain the safety of the Bt gene in Bt cotton and the reason for the animal deaths. We have not done the studies. Moreover, we do not have the means to test for allergenic reactions to Bt toxins.

Prof. Jack Heinemann in his critique of the E.C. II Report and Monsanto's Dossier says: "In my opinion, the dossier and the subsequent E.C. II Report fail

to meet fundamental and even routine hazard assessment standards for molecular characterisation. Since this is the starting point of any risk assessment, the downstream effects on the analysis can be significant. Many of the analyses that were undertaken seem to have been half-efforts, with shortcuts taken and then retrospectively justified using non-validated or incorrect assumptions. All scientific studies that form part of a safety evaluation must involve a comparator.... It is impossible to determine if these rules were followed in the dossier for Bt brinjal."

A reassessment of our agriculture policy, its priorities and a redirection of investment into alternative biotechnologies are needed. The powerful pro-GM interests are preparing to introduce the Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) Bill in Parliament. This is a tyrannical, secretive and frightening Bill that seeks to eliminate all opposition to GE crops. Its plain objective is to facilitate the introduction of GE crops into Indian agriculture. It must be stopped dead if India is to retain and exercise its sovereignty in agriculture, in food security and to preserve its biodiversity. ●

Chinese workers protest over pay and exposure to poisonous chemicals

STRIKES shed much light on Chinese workers' safety after 47 workers were hospitalized from exposure to chemical poisoning. In Suzhou, China, over 2,000 workers milled about the grounds of a local high school technical



factory, overturned vehicles, smashed computers, hurled objects at the police and succeeded in shutting down one of the largest producers of mobile telephone panels in the world, exporting to the US market. This factory is owned by the Taiwan Wintek conglomerate and supplies the US Apple Corporation. The workers were constantly exposed to Hexane, a toxic chemical used to clean the mobile phone panels. This Chinese breakneck speed of production many times overlooks the danger to workers or the dangerous conditions in the Chinese unsafe mines, where hundreds are killed each year. Many times when workers go on strike, they are fired, since there is no shortage of other workers to take their place! ●

ONE of the most important characteristic of the TEKEL resistance was the fact that it openly displayed the difference between the collaborating Turk-Is and the workers and labourers, and it didn't last with only that, with the pressure made on the unions, it forced the confederations to announce a general strike.

The TEKEL resistance that has already lasted for 2 months is paving the way for a new period for the working class in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan as well as the whole social movement.

12,000 workers from nearly 40 TEKEL businesses from different cities gathered in Ankara on December 15, 2009. Neither the police's rabid attacks, including spattering with pressurized water in the middle of the winter, and arrests, nor the efforts of the collaborating leadership of the union Turk-Is to compromise have been enough to stop the TEKEL workers resistance against the par. 4/C. TEKEL workers have continued with their resistance in Ankara for 2 months.

When the resistance started, the Kurdish people and its organisations were facing a new wave of attacks. Hundreds of Kurdish Patriots, among them mayors elected by the Kurdish people with a majority of votes, were imprisoned, and on the streets ethnical war provocations broke out one after another. One again Turkish workers and labourers poisoned with chauvinism tried to make the colonial attacks on the Kurdish people become a mass militia power.

The TEKEL resistance, as a gathering of the working class on the basis of objective class profits of Istanbul and Amed, was very important right during this period. It was the most important dynamics to make the whole social struggle and resistances reach victory, and first of all the Kurdish national liberation struggle, and not only fighting against

Turkey: TEKEL Workers are Resisting in the Name of Working Class!

the AKP government's attacks on the class, but at the same time the whole social struggle and resistances. The TEKEL resistance is also very important because it also points to the working class movement.

The TEKEL resistance won the broad support of society within a short time. Besides workers from different sectors and unions, democratic mass organisations, revolutionary and democratic forces supported the resistance, too. The resistance of the TEKEL workers met with the resistance of the fire fighters and railroad workers that developed at the same time, and went beyond the isolated and single resistances which are one of the continuous problems of the working class movement in Turkey. The militant practice and determination of the women joining the TEKEL resistance, the women taking part in every action in the first rank, is another strong side of the resistance.

The strong resistance tradition of the tobacco workers, which is rooted in history, has undoubtedly played a role in this resistance. In the past TEKEL workers who were displaying a great resistance during the process of privatisation of TEKEL this time developed a great resistance against the par. 4/C, too, which is considered as a law of slavery. According to the joke 4/C of the Officials Law no. 657 saying "staff with a fixed-term contract transferred to other official institutions and organisation because of privatisation", an important number of the TEKEL workers wants to be "taken over as contracted staff for only a fixed term". With that, the workers aren't entitled to receive severance pay aren't allowed to become members of a union and are only employed for a limited period between 4 and 10 months.

The resistance of the TEKEL workers against par. 4/C comes along during a period with a new wave of attacks on the workers and labourers. Some of these are Private Employment Offices and laws such as the Union Law, Draft Law for Working the Whole Day affecting the health workers, the labourers' right to collective agreement and the rights of workers they are entitled to. In this sense, the TEKEL resistance has the quality of resistance in the name of all workers and labourers against the AKP's approach to turn the economical crisis into an opportunity to introduce suitable laws for the capital.

One of the most important characteristic of the TEKEL resistance was the fact that it openly displayed the difference between the collaborating Turk-Is and the workers and labourers, and it didn't last with only that, with the pressure made on the unions, it forced the confederations to announce a general strike.

Turk-Is' traditional tactics to boast, at the rally organised with this aim in Ankara the workers occupied the stage with the slogan general strike, general resistance, and Turk-Is bureaucracy was protested all the time. The union's efforts to collaborate with the government were in vain. IMF collaborating AKP government didn't step even one foot backwards from the par. 4/C. Finally, Turk-Is, DISK, KESK, Hak-Is, Kamu-Sen and Memur-Sen announced the general strike on February 4.

On February 4, rallies were organised in the cities, workers from some sectors went on strike. The participation in the strike in Ankara, the centre of Ankara,

Greece : General Strike of 24 February

THE general strike of 24 February and the mass rallies organized in Athens, Thessaloniki, Patras and dozens of cities all over Greece gave a strong message of resistance against the EU, the PASOK government (and its reactionary anti-people alliance with the right-wing and the extreme right-wing), and the mainstream Media that continue their dark propaganda in favor of the destructive, medieval neoliberal policies imposed through the EU Stability Pact.

The mass participation in the strike and the rallies, despite the bourgeois campaign to promote the all-out attack against the people as “inevitable”, proved that the working people and the youth are in a process of realizing that the EU and government projects can be upset, and raise the expectations for the better organization and development of the people’s resistance. The fact that the leaders of the two trade union Confederations (GSEE for the private sector and ADEDY for the public sector) were obliged to call this general strike under the angry pressure of the workers shows this gradual change of the masses’ conscience, and the workers’ will to fight against the EU-government measures.

A new generation of militant strikers enters the race and gradually gives a new color to the struggles. This new generation of workers and employees, poorly paid and working under the most flexible and repressive conditions, demands the change of the course of the trade union movement, which still suffers by the chronic weaknesses provoked by its leaders’ capitulationist and pro-bourgeois line. More and more people support the demand to struggle against the EU Stability Pact, which embodies the essence of the current reactionary attack.

Now that the first general strike marked a success, the most crucial element is the continuation of the struggle. We must underline on this point that the concept of a sovereign government elected by the people has in reality been abolished as far as Greece is concerned. The parliamentary democracy reveals to be a parody. Greece is governed by the EU Ecofin. For the first time the articles

was high. 10,000s workers and labourers from different sectors marched until SSK* Ishani at Kizilay, Ankara. They defended the resistance of the TEKEL workers and protested the AKP government.

While the union confederations, which were forced to realise the strike due to the TEKEL workers’ pressure from the basis, drew attention on them with their acts of sabotaging the general strike and with the preparations for the general strike and general resistance, they mainly had a negative impact on the actions on February 4. While Turkiye Kamu-Sen and Memur-Sen changed their mind in the last minute, Turk-Is General Centre made the workers from different sectors remain unsure and told every union branch that “every union’s branch could define its kind of action itself” when the negotiations with the government didn’t come to a solution so that it could give up the decision of a strike. TEKEL workers have uninterruptedly continued with their resistance also after February 4. TEKEL workers started an indefinite hunger strike on February 5. TEKEL workers today resist in the name of all workers, labourers and oppressed groups. The resistance they are leading paves the way for the social struggle and shows the way to be followed. ●

of the Lisbon Treaty are activated, putting the workers of our country and the wealth that they produce under occupation by the Brussels. And while the last remnants of national sovereignty are shred apart, the banks, the stockbrokers, the employers and the cartels are impatiently waiting the structural “reforms” imposed on Greece by the European Commission.

The members and friends of the Communist Organization of Greece (KOE) worked all over the country, in neighborhoods and working places, in order to counter the bourgeois propaganda and to build various forms of collective organization in preparation of the general strike and of the struggles to come. In this context, the young workers movement “Dikaïoma” (“Right”) used old and new methods of activism in favor of the strike: from moto-rallies to interventions in central theaters and from propaganda activities outside and inside working places to happenings in popular spots. Also, activists of KOE, together with other comrades from SYRIZA (Coalition of Radical Left) made several interventions the days preceding the general strike. The most spectacular amongst these was the climbing in the offices of the EU Representation in the heart of Athens, from where they unfurled a huge banner with the slogan “No to the Stability Pact – European workers unite in solidarity and subversion”.

Actually KOE strives to build a broad militant front of solidarity and resistance, which will include several forces of the communist and radical Left aiming at uniting and developing struggles and revolts. The publication of the first issue of the new national weekly newspaper “Road” last Saturday 20 February (which is an initiative of KOE that regroups leftists and communists from various political forces, as well as non-organized militants) is another step in this context, contributing to the efforts for the building of “a Left that unites and resists”. ●

Communists Unite to Build Revolutionary Alternative

THE Central Budget which has further intensified the sky-rocketing prices of essential commodities, unemployment and underemployment, which is worsening the pauperization of the masses, reflects where imperialist globalization is leading the country to. During the last 20 years, the neo liberal policies pursued by ruling combinations at the centre and in the states, whether they are led by the Congress or BJP or CPI(M) or regional parties, prove that all of them are serving the imperialists, especially the US imperialist onslaughts over the country. These contemporary developments demand the unity of the communist revolutionary forces who are opposed to imperialist globalization leading to neo-colonialist slavery.

In West Bengal, the three and half decades of CPI(M)-led Left Front rule, through its anti-people policies as seen in Singur-Nandigram, etc., has fully alienated it from the people. It is indulging in desperate acts to prolong its rule. At the same time, for replacing CPI(M)-led rule at any cost, the Trinamul Congress is indulging in all sorts of dubious activities trying to present itself as the defender of people's interest. That it is a constituent of the UPA government, which is selling the country's interest to the imperialist forces, is cleverly concealed.

Instead of exposing the CPI(M) and TMC and developing a revolutionary alternative for carrying the people's interest forward, the CPI(Maoist) as well as some of the dubious left forces are engaged in the opportunist game of supporting in some way or other the TMC. Following an anarchist military line, the CPI(Maoist), whatever may be its proclaimed intention, wherever it is active, is providing an excuse for the Central and State governments to unleash state terror on the unprepared masses.

In this situation, what is required is a revolutionary alternative to the CPI(M)-led Left Front rule. We call upon all the communist revolutionaries to unite under the banner of CPI(ML), with alternative revolutionary policies. ●

[Press statement Released at Kolkata on 6 March 2010]

**Varga
Porattam**

Organ of Tamil Nadu
State Committee

PT Shanmuga Sundaram
No. - 10
Gangai Konda Shozan St.
MGR Nagar
Chennai
Tamil Nadu - 600 078

Paradoxes of 'Mayavati land'

NEARLY 100 people, almost entirely children and women, were crushed to death in a stampede on 4th March when more than ten thousand, mostly dalits had rushed to an ashram at Kunda in Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh. The much publicised *bhandara* (free meal) and small gifts was announced by a *sanyasi* who runs the ashram. The locality is in the border of Rae Bareilly and Amethi Lok Sabha seats represented by Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. The Corporate media have spent many columns and hours to describe in detail how the Sonia family is nursing these seats. Rahul taking food with dalits and spending a night in their huts were big news. They and Mayawati who claims that she is the one and only leader of dalits are vying with each other for dalit votes in this area. Still hearing about a free meal ten thousand made a mad rush and in the stampede so many children and women died besides hundreds of others getting injured.

But neither Sonia nor Mayawati nor other leaders of the same category is least disturbed by such news. In the very same month Mayawati got herself received in public functions with garlands made out of Rs. 1000 notes worth many millions. She has further strengthened the Brahmin-dalit alliance of her in the service of dalits! Gone are the days when the *Manuvadis* were attacked.

Travelling in economy class seats in airplanes and spending a night in a dalit hut sanitised in advance by the security forces are much easier acts. But when it comes to making budget for the country, the UPA of Sonia and Rahul has no pretensions. All subsidies and bail outs are only for the Corporate, MNC and agricultural bourgeoisie. Dramatics in the name of dalits, but real action for the Corporate. That is the bourgeois parliamentary circus in country like India under neo-colonisation. ●

**No to Reformism,
No To Anarchism,
March to Revolution**

**Documents Adopted by the All India
Special Conference of the CPI(ML) Held at
Bhopal from 7 to 12 November, 2009**

**R-8, Pratap Market
Jangpura-B
New Delhi - 110014**

Contribution : Rs. 25

Build-up Genuine Communist Party

Intensify Second Independence Struggle to Throw Out Neo-Colonial Slavery

THE All India Special Conference of CPI(ML) at Bhopal in November 2009 has declared that in the name of independence in 1947 colonial India was turned into neo-colonial India. Viceroy rule was replaced by Congress government serving imperialist, especially US imperialist interests. Under UPA government led by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the IMF-World Bank nominee, neo-colonial slavery is intensifying day-by-day. As a result price rise, unemployment and under employment, commercialisation of education and healthcare are pauperising the people. Whatever sovereignty the country had is lost. So CPI(ML) calls for intensifying second independence struggle to throw out neo-colonial slavery and to build people's democratic India. CPI(ML) upholds the great Telengana-Naxalbari struggles to achieve it.

But CPI and CPI(M) have degenerated from Communist path. Following capitalist path they have become part of the ruling system, they are not communist any more. On the other hand, the CPI(Maoist) is following the anarchist path trying to mechanically copy Chinese path of protracted people's war in basically different Indian conditions. The squad actions it is continuing, abandoning the mass line, is not only alienating people from the communist revolutionaries, but also is helping the Central and State governments to suppress all people's struggle against imperialist globalisation policies through *Operation Green Hunt*. Though other CPI(ML) groups are not engaged in squad actions, they are also upholding the same erroneous line of the Maoists. CPI(ML) is calling for the unity of all genuine communist forces uncompromisingly struggling against both CPI-CPI(M) and the Maoist and their B teams.

The present Telengana struggle for a new state has emerged because Congress and TDP governments in the state and the central governments refused to implement the 1956 agreements and as the Telengana region was left utterly backward. The very same ruling class parties are fomenting the separate Telengana demand, while not seeking an immediate solution to it, so that the people can be kept divided, diverting their attention from burning issues. CPI(ML) calls on the students and other progressive forces in the movement to not get confused by the reactionary forces. Struggle for Telengana should be combined with struggle for land to the tillers, struggle against imperialist globalisation, struggle against the penetration of MNCs and Corporates and struggle for food, housing, education, healthcare and employment for all. Out

slogan is a People's Democratic Telengana in People's Democratic India.

CPI(ML) is launching its activities openly in Andhra Pradesh as the Communists never conceal their goal that only through revolutionary struggles the present anti-people ruling system can be replaced by a People's Democratic State. CPI(ML) calls for throwing out imperialist globalisation policies and IMF, World Bank, WTO, MNCs, for revolutionary agrarian movement with land to the tiller – Stop all displacements – housing right for all slogans. It is calling for mobilising the working class, the peasantry, women, youth and students in a countrywide mass upsurge to put an end to neo-colonial slavery and to advance towards People's Democracy and Socialism. ●

[Press statement released at Hyderabad on 22-03-2010]

How Monopoly Capitalism Works

Wal-Mart's 3,900 US based super-chain stores is the biggest supermarket company in the entire world.

- * Wal-Mart employs 1.6 Million employees at a minimum wage. Most of them cannot speak English.

- * Of the 1.6 million employees, only 1.2% makes a living above the poverty level.

- * 92% of everything that Wal-Mart sells, comes from China. Another 4% comes from Chinese-owned companies in the US itself or in the Third World countries.

- * Wal-Mart, like most very large Corporations take out life insurance on their employees, without the employees knowing it.

If an employer dies, ALL the insurance money goes to the company. As an example if an employee makes \$18,000 pr year, then dies, the company might make as much as \$12 Million on that employees insurance.

Most often these moneys, coming from what is commonly referred to as "Dead Life Insurance Policies", is paid out to the Executives as bonuses. This is a common practice that is unknown to the people.

WAL-MART NOW AVERAGES CLEAR PROFIT OF OVER \$36 BILLIONS PER YEAR! ●

If Undelivered Return to
Red star
R - 8, Pratap Market
Jungpura-B, New Delhi-14

Postal Reg. No. DL(S)-18/3162/2009-11
RNI Registration No. - DELENG/2000/615

Appeal For Contributions To Build Central Committee Office Building

THE CPI(ML) was formed in 1969 following the great Naxalbari uprising when CPI and CPI(M) had abandoned the path of social revolution and degenerated to the camp of ruling class parties. In its early days failing to evaluate the concrete conditions in our country scientifically, it had committed 'left' adventurist mistakes, while engaged in charting a revolutionary path forward. Still Naxalbari uprising and CPI(ML) could bring the agrarian movement with land to the tillers slogan and struggle for people's democracy back to the agenda. In spite of ruthless state repression, it could wage numerous people's struggles across the country.

Even while a section of the movement persisted in the adventurist path and is resorting to anarchic actions under the CPI(Maoist), struggling against this erroneous trend and continuing to expose the degeneration of CPI-CPI(M) like forces to social democratic path, the CPI(ML) in its All India Special Conference at Bhopal in November 2009 has analysed India as a country under intensifying neo-colonial slavery and has put forward a Path of Social Revolution through the mobilisation of the working class, the peasantry and all other progressive, democratic sections against imperialism, especially US imperialism, and the rule of big capitalist-bureaucratic-big landlord classes serving it.

In this struggle for people's democracy and socialism, CPI(ML), mobilising all revolutionary classes and sections in democratic mass organisations, is fighting for an alternative development policy. It promises to ensure food-housing-education-healthcare-employment for all and environment protection, people's culture and a casteless-secular society against neo-liberal policies pursued by the central and state governments leading the vast masses to pauperisation and the country to devastation, irrespective of whichever party or alliance is in power. In this process it has expanded the functioning of the Party to most of the states, is bringing out publications in a number of languages and has organised the working class, peasants, women, youth and student at all India level.

In order to consolidate and expand these activities the Party needs a Central Office building at Delhi, purchasing a small plot for it. It demands a substantial amount. The Central Committee of CPI(ML) appeals to all comrades and friends, to all progressive, democratic sections to generously contribute to this fund. ●

**New Delh
01-03-2010**

**K.N. Ramachandran
General Secretary
CPI(ML)**